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NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER-----FOR THE FARM, FIELD AND FIRESIDE.

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A. W. CHEEVER.....AGRICULTURAL EDITOR.

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Correspondence.

Communications on farm subjects are solicited from subscribers and readers. All such communications or queries should be accompanied by the *name of the writer,* not for publication, but simply as a guarantee of good faith.

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DARLING & KEITH,

34 Merchants Row, Boston, Mass.

Editorial.

WAYSIDE NOTES.

From Pine Hedge Farm to Mount Wachusett.

"If a man own land, the land owns him; now let him leave home if he dare. Every tree and graft, every hill of melons, row of corn, or quick-set hedge, all he has done, and all he means to do, stand in his way, like duns, when he would go out of his gate. The devotion to these vines and trees he finds poisonous. Long, free walks, a circuit of miles, free his brain and serve his body." This wrote Emerson, who, it seems, did not believe much in mingling bodily labor with scholarship, as was attempted by the "Brook Farm" philosophers, some forty years ago. But Mr. Emerson never tried to be an agricultural editor, if he had, perhaps he would have better realized the advantage, if not the absolute necessity, for mingling personal manual labor with writing for the press.

For ourself, we could never understand how one can write about that in which he is not personally interested. To write for farmers upon farm matters, it seems to us, requires that the writer shall, in some way, be more or less closely connected to the soil, and have a real sympathy and familiarity with farm work as well as with farm workers. But then it is true that if one owns land the land and the crops will seem to own him, and he can only leave home by asking permission of the cattle, the pigs, the poultry, and the "pusley."

For more than two-score years we have been able to reckon on the coming of planting weather, by the slow or rapid melting of the snowbanks which lie every spring on the southerly side of Mount Wachusett, within plain view from our own fields, though by carriage road some fifty miles away, and for a period of more than half that time we have been trying to get permission from the cattle, the growing crops, and the weeds, to make a journey thither during the summer season, that we might see for ourselves how Massachusetts looks from the mountain tops, and how the farms look along the route, but until now the opportunity had never been given.

On Tuesday, the 7th of August, after tramping through the mellow, dusty soil of a five-acre field, scattering hay seed by hand, till every muscle ached, and every toe seemed blistered, we said to our companion in farm troubles and farm joys, let us forget the farm for a few days and take a trip to Wachusett; agreed, and we will start tomorrow. So leaving the team horses and a trusty neighbor to finish the smoothing and rolling of the prospective hay field, we hitched up a hired horse and turned her head toward the northwest. Before getting beyond the boundaries of the adjoining town of Franklin, we found that the backbone of the drought was far less injured by the showers on the 28th of July, than we had anticipated, the cornfields, except on very moist land, showing a great many curled and withered leaves. The pastures, too, are suffering severely, and very little after-feed is growing in the mowing fields, so that farmers have to depend largely upon corn fodder for their cows, while many are already beginning upon their winter stores of dry fodder. On low lands that were not too wet in the spring, Indian corn is looking very thrifty and stout, the hot, dry weather suiting its wants exactly. Potatoes are also promising well, except on the dryest knolls, or where the beetles have been allowed too much liberty. But more of the crops as we get further on. Our desire is to study people as well as plants, farmers as well as crops.

Shoe-Maker Turned Farmer.

Our first stop was made in Mendon, where we spent a couple of hours with one of the FARMER readers, who, with failing health and a failed employer, five years ago, gave up shoe making and bought a farm for a home for himself and family. The farm contains about forty acres, including woodland, and had a two-story house and large barn, both comfortable, but needing some repairs, beside a good deal of "fixing up" to make them satisfy the tastes of the new owners. The twenty-eight acres of what is now cleared land, produced but seven tons of fodder, of medium quality, when the purchase was made, a large portion of the land being thickly covered by alders, bogberry, and other rank growing bushes. The surface was also very rocky, and some of it very wet in the spring of the year. One field of an acre or two which produced nothing but bushes, is now a good mowing, yielding two tons of good hay per acre. Our friend's experience in farming has been so short that he seemed rather reluctant about having his operations made use of for public benefit, so we will save him any possible annoyance from inquiring correspondents, and designate him merely as Mr. A. But this grass field is worthy of further notice. Mr. A. earned his money by hard labor at the bench and cutting board, and can neither afford to waste it nor to have his capital lie idle. On making inquiries of the assessors as to their basis of valuation of different kinds of farm lands, he found that he was paying interest and taxes on a certain portion of the farm upon a nominal valuation of twenty-five dollars per acre, while the land itself was producing absolutely nothing, not even valuable wood. In other words, he was twenty-five dollars worse off for each acre of such land set to his name.

A Plain Problem.

Now, thought Mr. A., if I spend fifty dollars per acre in improvements on this land, and make it worth but fifty dollars per acre, I shall certainly be twenty-five dollars per acre better off than I now am, because it is now worse than nothing. So he expended fifty dollars per acre in clearing it of bushes and rocks, and in digging a few drains. Then he ploughed and manured, and treated as other farm lands, and soon found that he was reaping harvests that were paying the interest on a sum much larger than the cost of the land and its improvements. Instead of seven tons he is now cutting some twenty to twenty-five tons of good fodder per year, while a pretty large proportion of the farm is in potatoes and rye, and garden vegetables, and small fruits. A third acre patch has been devoted to strawberries and onions, the sales being, the first year, $35 for onions, the second, $125 for strawberries, and the third, $50 for strawberries. A larger bed of strawberries is now growing finely for next year's cropping. Seven acres are in potatoes, and they look very much like the old fashioned crops of forty years ago, before the rot had made its appearance in this country. The ashes made by burning bogs and other rubbish while clearing the land, undoubtedly added to its fertility, while the decaying roots make it light and friable, just suiting the potato crop. His winter rye has been heavy, and will give good returns, both of straw and grain.

On taking the farm, Mrs. A., from what she had gathered by reading poultry articles in newspapers, had acquired high expectations concerning the profits of chicken raising, and as early as February commenced the business of setting a few hens. By the way, February is the month when the feminine as well as the masculine amateur agricultural ambition and expectation usually are at their height. The annual seed catalogues have just arrived with their pictures of fine fruits, vegetables, and flowers, and the days begin to lengthen quite perceptibly, so that an early spring can be predicted. The amateur does not propose to be caught napping, so the eggs are set, and the seeds put to sprouting in boxes by the kitchen stove. Mrs. A's chickens hatched and did well for two or three weeks, or so long as there was room for them under the mother hen's wings, but long before the snow was gone, nearly all had died from cramp or rheumatism of the joints, caused by exposure to cold and wet. She now smiles at the advice of some of the writers on poultry farming, and proposes, in future, to count her fortune in chicken raising after it is made. In summing up the results of the five years of farming Mr. A. is compelled to admit that although some mistakes have been made, and a good deal of hard work done, yet, had he five years ago engaged in the shoe business, with no more experience or knowledge than he had of farming at that time, he would most surely have failed. Or to state it in another way, no other business compares with farming in the matter of safety to one who has everything to learn. Mr. A's home and his forty acres of naturally good land, situated near enough to all the advantages of a village residence, with a good market right at his door, has cost him $1700, the interest of which would just about pay the rent of an ordinary village tenement. Here he has plenty of room, constant employment, is his own master, can work when he pleases, and lay off a day without asking permission, and without having his income entirely cut off, as does the mechanic who works for another by the day or week. The farm also gives employment to every member of the family, which is something to be appreciated by mechanics, who have nothing for their children to do, but must send them away as soon as they are old enough to begin to learn to earn their own living. Mr. A. reads the FARMER very carefully, and studies his business earnestly, and considering how much he had to learn, has certainly made few mistakes, and has very little to regret in his agricultural experience. He is now using fertilizers quite freely, and finds a profit in them. Some of his neighbors who predicted failure when they saw him clearing and draining his land, are now compelled to take his experience as a guide in their own operations.

TIME TO CUT TIMBER.

Most of the lumber and fuel of the country has always been cut in winter when labor is plenty and cheap compared to the busy growing season of the year, and doubtless, when everything is considered, this has been the best time. The new growth springs up much more readily when the cutting is done in winter, but it has long been known by those who are particular about the quality and durability of timber, that if cut at some other season its value is greatly increased. Many are aware that our common gray birch, or white birch, though making excellent fuel when properly housed is, if otherwise handled, one of the very poorest timber trees known.

A birch tree cut in March and left out of doors till August may usually be broken by a slight blow, the bark being the only partially sound part of it. Such wood is almost worthless for fuel, being wet and spongy, the life and strength of the wood being all gone. If, however, the same tree had been sawed up into stove lengths, and every length split and piled under cover where it could season properly, it would have made an excellent quality of fuel. Birch, when cut at the right time and suitably seasoned, makes the very best of timber for spools, thousands of cords of it being used for that purpose every year in New England. The hoops for nail casks are also chiefly made from this wood, the trees being cut in winter when they are ten or twelve feet high and an inch in diameter. They must, however, be made up while green, or they would soon be quite worthless. It has been generally supposed that the birch decays thus rapidly on account of its tight bark, which prevents the sap from being dried out by the ordinary methods of open air seasoning, and this seems proved by the fact that if the wood be split when green and piled under cover it seasons perfectly sound. But there is another peculiarity about this wood that may be worth knowing. If a white birch be cut in mid summer when in full leaf, it will bear about the same treatment as other trees. The last summer we had occasion to cut some birches for bean poles. They were in full leaf and had nearly done growing for the season, except in size. The date was late in June or early in July, the beans at the time having begun to run. The poles did good service through the summer, and what is unusual for birch poles, were found to be sound in the fall when pulled up and packed away to clear the ground. This spring an examination showed that they were perfectly sound and tough, although they had remained out all winter, and are in use for poling beans again this summer.

Mr. Edmund Hersey, member of the Board of Agriculture from Hingham, has been making some experiments with white birches cut at different seasons, and with the following results. He cut a lot of birch wood in August, and, without splitting, piled it up in the open air for fuel. The next spring he cut another lot, and also piled that in the weather, without splitting. Both lots were overhauled in the following July or August. The lot which had remained in the pile a whole year was found perfectly sound, and made good fuel, while that which had been cut in spring, and had been piled only about four months, was practically worthless.

Dr. Jabez Fisher, of Fitchburg, understands this difference between lumber cut in winter and summer so well, that he contracts for all his grape vine posts to be cut in August.

The finest lot of railroad ties we ever saw were cut in summer when the trees were in full leaf. The wood seasoned very rapidly, and, when handled, had a ring to it like steel when struck with a hammer. We are not ready to recommend the cutting of all timber and fuel in summer, but we believe that farmers should know what the effect upon lumber is when cut at different seasons of the year. It would seem that there is no way in which the wood of a tree can be relieved of its sap so thoroughly, and be left in so sound a condition, as when the sap goes out through the leaves, or through the pores, during the season of full leaf.

GREEN FEED AND MILK FLAVOR.

Under the above heading, the *N. Y. Tribune* gives the experience of some of its correspondents in feeding green rye to cows in milk, which would seem to leave a doubt as to whether rye is a suitable food for cows, where good milk and sweet butter is the main object. Mr. I. D. G. Nelson, of Indiana, makes the very strong statement that "while rye in an emergency for early spring pasture, is useful and desirable, milch cows must be kept from it, as it imparts a very unpleasant flavor to the milk and butter."

Now we have made a practice of feeding green rye to cows in milk for many years past, and, although it may be possible to change so suddenly from dry feed to a full ration of green rye as to sicken the cows and cause an unpleasant flavor in the milk, yet we do not think the impression ought to go out among farmers, that green rye is a very dangerous kind of food to use in the spring of the year, when the hay mows are failing, and the feed in the pastures is slow to start. On the other hand, we believe it is almost an indispensable crop for many farmers, and might be grown with advantage by a great many who have never yet tried it. We can scarcely bring to mind any sort of cattle food that somebody has not at some time been ready to condemn from the results of his own experience. Corn meal, wheat bran, rye meal, cotton seed meal and linseed, green corn and all sorts of green fodder, and dry hay, even, have been charged with doing mischief, or with failing to accomplish desired results, when fed to milch cows. Thousands of pages have been written discussing the value, or the danger of green corn fodder and cotton seed meal as cow feed, but still farmers go on and raise the one and buy the other, and feed both in larger quantities than ever before.

The truth is, a little judgment is required for successful cattle feeding. A large proportion of the diseases of animals named in our "doctor" books, are attributed to sudden changes from good to poor, or from poor to rich food. A great many animals are annually injured by being surfeited on green clover, and yet green clover, properly fed, is a most excellent food for cows. The most costly experiment we ever made in feeding green fodder to cows, was with green barley grown late in the fall, and fed almost exclusively for two or three weeks, following directly after a much less succulent ration of partially dry corn fodder, poor pasture and hay.

The barley was quite immature, scarcely headed out, and of course had not developed its sugar and other nutritious elements in perfection, but hungry cattle ate it heartily, and with free feeding of grain seemed to be quite satisfied, but the cream made from such rank fodder, which was grown largely in the shade, had a very perceptible flavor, which evidently did not belong to the best cream, and the butter made from it retained the same unnatural flavor. The flavor was not specially unpleasant, but it was unnatural and so excited the suspicion of customers that some of them rejected the butter and returned it. We had fed green barley at other times for several years without experiencing any difficulty whatever, but usually it was riper or was fed in less quantity, or the change from poorer feed was made more gradually.

With such an experience to recall in our own herd, we can not doubt that similar troubles have been had by others in feeding green foods to cattle that have been kept rather short, or on much poorer food. But it will not do to be frightened out of so good a practice as the growing and feeding of green rye, barley, corn-fodder, or other green stuff, merely because it is sometimes over-fed or injudiciously fed. There may be a great choice in foods for cattle, but we cannot all have the very best at all times, and therefore, must learn how to use foods which, perhaps, may be reckoned as second class when compared to a moderately short blue-grass pasture, with a sprinkling of clover to give variety. A great deal of very satisfactory milk and butter, is annually made from cows that consume more or less turnip and cabbage with their other food, and even the famous Philadelphia butter is not always free from a little of the garlic flavor.

The stomach of the cow is a most wonderful apparatus, but it does not appear to act exactly alike at all times, nor in all animals. In feeding any food having very marked characteristics, we should begin with it very gradually, and if need be, give it only in connection with other foods that are less pronounced in their character. Green rye is a valuable crop to grow and to feed, even to milch cows that are giving milk, but judgment is required in feeding it, as it is in doing anything else.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE AMERICAN FARMER.—A Complete Agricultural Library, in two volumes. Ralph H. Park & Co.

The second volume of this large and valuable work by Charles L. Flint, is all and more than was promised by the publishers in their original announcement. It contains 1032 pages, or 1882 in both volumes, besides over seven hundred illustrations, and is really what it claims to be, a complete and generally reliable guide to the farmer in every department. The work treats upon general farming, buildings, and crops, and all classes of domestic animals, fruit culture, gardening, silk and fish culture, and bees and birds, while the chapters upon domestic affairs, and higher standard of life for the farmer, will make the volumes as attractive to the farmer's wife and children as useful to all. We congratulate the publishers on so successful a culmination of their endeavors, and bespeak for them a liberal patronage from the reading American farmers, both old and young. The work is sold by subscription only, and all inquiries should be addressed to the publishers, Hartford, Ct.

AGRICULTURAL ITEMS.

—Wasps will seldom attack strong colonies of bees, but if a weak swarm is near a place frequented by wasps they will annoy the bees considerably.

—The agricultural editor of the *American Traveller,* says that earth worms *do* attack potatoes, for he has "seen specimens which contained earth worms at work upon the surface of the potatoes." That settles it.

—Fuller, in his "Small Fruit Culturist," says: "I do not believe that there is one acre of strawberries in a thousand, cultivated in this country, that yields over one-half what it would if the ground was properly prepared before planting."

—This story for the marines is floating around the papers, viz: A peach-tree at Auburn, Cal., which has heretofore borne very fine peaches, stands near several plum trees, and this year hangs full of plums. The peach and plum trees were in blossom at the same time.

—The nectar gathered from the flowers cannot be called honey until the evaporation and ripening process has so far gone on that the bees have commenced capping it over. If it be extracted before it is capped by the bees, as some apiarists recommend on account of the quantity being thereby greatly augmented, then it should be ripened before it is placed in tight packages or shipped, or it is liable to ferment and sour. The bee-keepers of California find it necessary to extract the honey as fast as it is gathered, but they thoroughly ripen it after gathering.

—A *Country Gentleman* correspondent uses sulphur to kill the striped bugs which infest melon, squash, and cucumber vines. It is applied by dipping the fingers in the sulphur and touching each leaf in the morning when the dew is on the plants, and also by sprinkling a little around the stems of the plants.

—The *Ohio Farmer* says: "The longest lived tree is to be obtained by planting seeds where the tree is to grow and grafting it there without ever removing it, but it will be too long coming into bearing; this with apples and pears, but with the peach it is the way to insure the greatest possible hardiness with any given variety."

—Peter Henderson says: I find that turf can be successfully laid down, if necessary, in dry and hot summer weather, by simply covering it when finished, before it gets too dry, with about a quarter of an inch of light soil put through a half-inch sieve. The grass begins to grow through the soil in a very few days.

—Mr. A. M. Purdy has whitewashed his fruit trees for thirty years and closely observed the results, which have invariably been to make smoother bodies and healthier trees. He therefore designates the articles in some of his exchanges which oppose whitewashing as injurious to trees, as "mere bosh."

—E. L. Sturtevant says he has found strong tobacco water a remedy for the cabbage flea beetle, hallica striolata, the little black bug or flea which is so destructive to young plants of turnip, radish and cabbage. The decoction must be made strong. This tobacco water is of no avail with the striped bug or cucumber beetle. Corncobs dipped in coal tar or in turpentine and kerosene seemed to drive away a large proportion of the beetles.

—There are reports from several parts of Sweden of a hitherto unknown and very destructive kind of caterpillar which is giving a great deal of trouble to the farmers and anxiety to the whole population. It is a gray-brown, with deep gray stripes; its appearance is most common after rain. Its work on the crops has been so serious as to demand assistance of the government.

—A New York farmer reports to the Elmira Farmers' Club, his method of raising potatoes without having to fight the potato bug. This he does by keeping his seed potatoes through the winter in the lowest temperature they will possibly bear without freezing, thus keeping the germs dormant until the time of planting, which with him is late, so that quick growth may be assured. Seed so kept has unimpaired vigor, and he depends on that to repel assaults by insects of any kind.

—A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* says: "A heavy crop of clover is sure death to daisies. They seem to be smothered by the ranker growth of clover, and fail to mature their seeds. In a field where there is a growth of daisies a generous use of fertilizers, especially of barnyard manure, and keeping the field seeded to clover, using an extra quantity of seed for this purpose, and breaking up every two years, cultivating for awhile and again seeding to clover thickly, will finally eradicate the daisies."

—At a meeting of the Lancaster Poultry and Live Stock Association Mr. F. R. Diffenderffer read a paper relating to gapes in chicks, which is published in the Lancaster *Farmer.* In accordance with a request he tried the experiment of preventing gapes by feeding the young chicks on a board floor. The gapes kept away so long as they remained on the board floor of the stable, where they were kept, but all of them took the gapes when placed on the ground to remain. Mr. Diffenderffer considers his experiment a failure from the fact that, while the chicks did not have the gapes when confined on the board floor, yet insufficient sunshine, impure air and want of room for exercise so injured them in health as to render the method unprofitable.

Correspondence.

For the New England Farmer.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES IN MASSACHUSETTS.--No. 2.

The constitution of Massachusetts, which was adopted in 1780, recognized the duty of the State to encourage Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. Chap. 5, Sec. 2, of the constitution enjoins it to be "the duty of legislatures and magistrates in all future periods of this Commonwealth, to encourage private societies and public institutions, by awards and immunities for the promotion of agriculture, arts, sciences, commerce, trades and manufactures, and a natural history of the country."

The paying of bounties to societies originated as early as 1818, but at first they were very limited in amount on account of the small number of societies then organized, but the amount was gradually increased by the formation of new societies until in 1855, there were seventeen incorporated societies, receiving annual bounty from the State treasury, which that year, amounted to $10,542. The number of these societies continued to increase during the next twenty years, so that, in 1875, incorporated societies required State bounty to the amount of $17,928,—$600 each for all but Nantucket.

Since 1876 two societies, Norfolk and Bristol Centre, have collapsed, so that twenty-eight societies now receive the bounty. These bounties are paid under the provisions of the General Statutes, Chap. 66, Sect. 1, which reads as follows:—

"Every incorporated agricultural society which has raised by contribution of individuals and put out at interest on public or private security, or invested in real estate, buildings and appurtenances for its use and accommodation, the sum of one thousand dollars, as a capital appropriated for the uses of the society, shall be entitled to receive, in the month of October annually, out of the treasury of the Commonwealth, the sum of two hundred dollars, and in that proportion annually for any greater sum so contributed and put at interest or invested; but no society shall receive from the treasury more than six hundred dollars in one year."

Certainly the State has been liberal with these societies, and the question naturally arises, what use have they made of this money entrusted to them? Have they used it in such a manner as to secure their highest object, the encouragement of agriculture and mechanic arts? Or have they used it too largely with the sole idea of getting up a grand show or gala day, without due regard to the improvement of agriculture? It would appear that it was the intent of the General Court, when it enacted the law whereby these societies were to receive this bounty, not to give them exclusive possession, but to place it under their control as a trust, to be expended for the encouragement of agriculture; these societies being at that time the only recognized means whereby the government could foster agriculture. That this was the intent of the General Court is evident from the accompanying sections of Chap. 66, General Statutes, as well as subsequent enactments which read as follows:—

Sect. 5. Every such society shall annually, on or before the tenth day of January, make a full return of its doings, signed by its president and secretary, to the secretary of the Board of Agriculture, embracing a statement of the expenditure of all money, specifying the nature of the encouragement proposed by the society, the objects for which its premiums have been offered, and the persons to whom they have been awarded, and including all reports of committees and all statements of experiments and cultivation regarded by the president and secretary as worthy of publication.

* * * * *

Sect. 7. Every society which receives said bounty shall offer annually by way of premiums, or shall otherwise apply for the encouragement or improvement of agriculture or manufactures, a sum not less than the amount so annually received, and shall offer such premiums for agricultural experiments and in such manner as the State Board of Agriculture requires.

Sec. 8. Every such society shall annually offer such premiums and encouragement for the raising and preserving of oak and other forest trees, as to it seems proper and best adapted to perpetuate within the State an adequate supply of ship timber.

Chapter 258. Laws and Resolves, 1870.

Chapter sixty-six of the General Statutes is hereby so altered and amended that no agricultural society shall be entitled to receive a larger amount from the treasury of the Commonwealth in any one year, than it shall have awarded and actually paid in premiums during the year last preceding.

We have every reason to believe that those societies, as originally conducted, were successful as a means of promoting agricultural progress, and that the bounties then entrusted to them were judiciously used. Those old fashioned cattle shows, where the working farmers drove their native and grade cattle, with perhaps an occasional thoroughbred, to the appointed place, and exhibited them on the public common, in friendly competition for the modest premiums then offered, and the rural population gathered from the surrounding country to see what their neighbors in adjoining towns had produced and brought to the show, and to talk over the crops and matters of general interest, perhaps found this the only time during the whole year when many of them could meet. There were no agricultural "hoss" trots in those days, no gambling at fairs, but probably some New England rum was drunk at the tavern on the corner; yet I doubt if it produced as much disturbance as do the decoctions sold at the fairs in modern days under the name of beer. But since then what a change has occurred. Most of those societies have purchased extensive grounds, and built an expensive track for their trot; have enclosed their grounds with a high fence, to exclude all who will not pay half a dollar to see whose horse can gain a quarter of a second in trotting a mile.

Besides giving undue prominence to horse trotting, most of these societies are open to criticism in other departments. The premiums paid for neat stock are so arranged that most of them go to a few breeders of so-called blood stock, of which there are usually but a few competitors in a class, and *often* only one, who scoops all the premiums offered in that class. Such has been the case at Worcester, when exhibitors have drawn large sums without any competition. A part of the legitimate work of these societies is to encourage experiments by offering premiums for conducting and reporting them, yet how few of them do so now. But, perhaps, I ought to except Essex County society in this wholesale criticism, for Essex has gone on in a way of her own, and still maintains a vigorous old age, and issues a valuable report annually, containing much valuable information.

As long ago as 1869, Secretary Flint noticed the delinquencies of some of these societies. In his report for 1869, page 264, he says: "Some of the societies comply with the spirit of the law, and aim to gain and diffuse information, to awaken enterprise, emulation, and material activity; while others content themselves with a bare compliance with the letter of the law and add nothing to the general intelligence of the State. The former publish valuable reports, full of instruction and replete with information and interest, and regard this as the great leading object of their existence; while the latter spend their energies altogether on the fair, * * * and retain little or nothing for the money they receive from the State. * * *. Now the main object of the State in awarding these bounties is not to distribute its money to please a few small contributors, but to develop its material resources, by adding to the general intelligence upon farming; to encourage experiment and farm improvement; to increase the value and quality of our stock, by holding up a high standard of excellence; and, above all, to elevate the dignity and character of agriculture itself, as a practical pursuit."

Farmers of Massachusetts, who is at fault for this decline of these honored societies but yourselves? and since it is in your power to make them still useful, why will you not do so? Let us encourage the production of valuable stock, whether pedigreed or not; and while it is desirable to encourage the breeding of pure bred stock, let us also equally encourage the production of valuable qualities in all grade stock. Let us also make more of the show in the hall, offer premiums for useful experiments, for the best managed farms and gardens, and make the most we can of our institutes or farmers' meetings, in doing which I believe we can make these societies still an honor to those who founded them, and worthy objects of public support.

J. W. PIERCE.

West Millbury, Mass., July 25, 1883.

For the New England Farmer.

JAPANESE FARMING.

BY S. ARAKAWA, A NATIVE OF JAPAN.

Rice.

There is scarcely a food in Japan so much liked, so much considered, and so much esteemed as rice—the chief supporter of the life of Japanese people for more than 2500 years. From the fact of its soil and climatic adaptations it has been so extensively raised as an indispensable food throughout the Empire that our country is often called "Riceland." It goes to the stomach of almost every Japanese in one form or another, from the Emperor down to the coolie class. It is produced perhaps more than any other crop in the country. According to the census of 1880, the annual product of rice in that year was 161,255,086.626 bushels from 6,372,174.803 acres of land, or 4.607 bushels to every inhabitant, taking our total population in that year as 35,000,000, or about 25.31 bushels per acre.

Rice constitutes about three-fifths of our vegetable and cereal food. Its importance is so impressed upon the minds of some people that the words "food" and "rice" are supposed by them to be synonymous, so that when food is spoken of by them rice is almost always meant. The principal business of our farmers therefore has been to raise rice to support the life of their fellowmen. At the time of rice growing, every part of the country from the southern to the northern extremities, except a small part of the latter, presents a fresh and pleasant prospect of irrigated rice fields, instead of such a dry (as I can call it so) and extensive view of wheat, corn and grassland as I have observed in this country.

The fact that our farmers are so much interested in the raising of rice is made plain to some extent by the following instance. We had a famous practical farmer (he died last year,) who had gathered himself about 160 different kinds of rice from different localities, and planted them on his farm. After the untiring experiments of thirty years, he had found out positively a great difference existing in these different kinds of rice, in regard to the number of grains which an ear of the plant of each kind yielded, and also to the height of each plant. Rice is eaten as a plain boiled meal, without sugar, salt, or condiments. It is an essential part of the table, fish, meat and vegetables, being supplement to it. We are contrary in this respect to most of western nations, where rice makes the least important food, not being often present on the table, so far as my observation extends. In our case we do not feel we have dined if we do not eat rice, so that a table without rice is not called a regular meal. It is used not only as a regular meal, but also as cakes of various forms.

Preparation of Rice-field, Seed-bed, Transplanting, Soaking Seed in Water, &c.

Rice is generally planted on irrigated land, except upland rice, which is raised less extensively. It thrives in most places which have a plentiful supply of water at hand, and which at the same time are free from droughts as well as inundations. It prefers a gravelly soil rather than clayey, and needs sufficient sunlight at all times.

Varieties of rice are numerous—early, middle and late being principal classes. For seed we should select a grain which is very white, and of good taste.

Our farmers used to say that rice thrives best in the year when willows grow best, the reason being, perhaps, obscure even to themselves.

In about 70 or 80 days after planting, the ears spring up; 30 days after this early varieties will be ready for cutting, and 40 or 50 days after the same, middle and late varieties might be cut.

Fields for rice are either ploughed in autumn or spring, or it may be wheat land after the crop is harvested. It is sometimes ploughed two or three times before planting rice. Water is led into the spot and fertilizers are applied. Then it is ploughed again thoroughly. Plant the rice sprouts by hand. They are taken out of their bed generally when they get 7 or 8 inches long. Where the wind blows hard, however, the shorter or younger sprouts are preferred, and in deep-watered fields, or where water flows in considerably from all directions, the taller ones are planted so that they might not be sunk under water in case of flood.

The average number of sprouts to be planted to the plot of 10,800 square feet, or about one-fourth of an acre, is 30,000. The richer the soil the less number is required and vice versa. They should be planted evenly; that is, at nearly the same distance from each other.

They should be taken out of their bed and planted in February for early varieties; in June for middle; in the latter part of June for late. Of course this varies somewhat according to the locality, and in general it is better to plant it earlier than late. Rice planted later than the proper season is said to give hardly a good crop, even if it is well cared for, while one planted at the right time has strong stalks, large ears, thin bran, and, in short, is well in every respect.

In rainy seasons less water is conducted to rice fields than in dry. After cutting, the plants are made into bundles of convenient size, which are dried by hanging on a frame made for the purpose. It consists of two bamboo stakes, set obliquely into the ground, and in such a way that they are separated from each other at some distance, and also made to cross one another near the upper ends, and tied by ropes. Similar arrangements are made at some convenient distance from this. Now, tie a horizontal slat on which the bundles are hung, to these frames. As many such arrangements are prepared as the circumstances require. For convenience of hanging the bundles are divided into two parts, and hung on the slat with their butts pointing upward (see E in picture.)

Late varieties should be cut after the first or second frost. If cut before the frost and not dried enough on the field, the quality of the grain will be impaired to some extent, and also the grain often suffers from insect injuries, when kept in a store or bags, and consequently its quality will be injured.

After selecting seed, it should be soaked in water—in February for early varieties. It should remain therein for 24 or 25 days. A pond is made for this purpose. In seven or eight days after this, seeds of middle varieties are soaked for 20 days, and of late varieties, for 17 or 18 days. After the given time take the seed out from the pond; dry it for two or three days; turn it over well. Take it in before sunset. Spread a matting on the ground. Put the seed on it and cover the whole with a straw mat, and let it stand in this condition until it sprouts. When the sprouts get about one-fifth of an inch long, they should be planted in beds. Beds should be ploughed two or three times, and pulverized well. About one or two bushels of seed are sown to 1000 square feet. For fertilizers, grass and horse manure are generally used. About ten days after sowing seed, when it gets well started, conduct some water to the spot, and then dry it up for two days. Then pour in water and dry up. Repeat the same operation several times, taking care not to lead too much water at one time. If during the time of drying rain sets in, pour some water into the field immediately, so that the roots of the young plants might not be disturbed by the rain.

The bed should be changed every year, that is, it should be fallowed for one year after it is used. By so doing the sprouts start vigorously, and after being transplanted to the field, they grow very quick and strong. The bed should be ploughed several times in winter, and pulverized thoroughly. Then gather some of the finely pulverized dirt from the surface of the spot, and keep it under a shed which is open to the south, and which has the roof slanting to the north, so that in rainy days the water would not drop in front of the dirt and wet it. Sow the seed quite thin in dry weather—the thinner the better. Then cover the seed rather shallow with the dirt kept under the shed, to which some wood ashes are added.

Besides the kind of seed bed just mentioned, we have another kind of bed, which is irrigated land, that is, land into which water is constantly poured. But the former is generally preferred and used. Some of the reasons for its preference are as follows: First, it saves the labor of irrigation. Second, each bed being left to fallow the following year, the amount of fertilizer to be applied may be less, and the sprouts start more vigorously than in the other case where the land is not fallowed. Third, as the plants are strong, they may escape, to a large extent, diseases of any sort. Fourth, weeding can be easily and thoroughly done. Fifth, as weeding can be more thoroughly done, the larger amount of fertilizers may be taken up by the plants. Sixth, ears start several days earlier, so that harvesting may be done earlier. Seventh, the beds, after the sprouts are transplanted to the field, may be more easily used for the cultivation of some other crop.

Take large and strong sprouts and plant them in the field quite deep. Pour water constantly into the field, and run it out at the time of flood. In a place near which there is a good brook, conduct water to the plot, either by pipes or water wheels. It is poured into a high land by means of a well-bucket, swung on the end of a pole, and several other contrivances, constant care day and night being had to keep the field in wet condition, so that, even in case of continued drought, the plants might not suffer from it. In a place near which there is not any convenient river or pond, a well or pond is generally dug.

Sex of Rice.

What we call the female rice has long ears; many large grains; the tip of the ear divided into two branches; two layers of roots, which enter deeply into the soil, and consequently establish the plant firmly therein, protect it from the wind, from a long rain, as well as droughts. It is also free from insect injuries, in most cases. The male plant is just in the opposite condition; the ear is not divided near its tip; the grains are small; the roots in one layer, which fix the plant feebly in the soil, and therefore, makes it to be easily stirred by the wind, affected by droughts, &c. So much advantage attending the female plant, we should select it for seed, and pick the grains up in the field at the time of their ripening. The average number of grains in an ear of the male plant is 70; of the female 150. Hence the greater profit in sowing the latter seed than the former.

Upland Rice.

There are several kinds of upland rice. Some varieties are of very white and large grains; others have ears which are about one foot long. On those soils which are too wet for the cultivation of other crops, and which are at the same time, too dry for common rice, this kind of rice grows quite well, and sometimes gives more yield per acre than the latter. The seed bed is ploughed in winter. After soaking the seed three days in water, take it out and expose it to the sun. When it begins to germinate, it should be sown to the bed which has received suitable fertilizers. From March to May is the usual time of transplanting the sprouts to the field, which was ploughed frequently in the previous autumn and winter. The sprouts should be removed there when they get seven or eight inches high. Four or five sprouts are planted together in a place, and in rows. The number, however, varies according to the fertility of the soil—the poorer the soil the greater the number.

It is said that since the introduction of upland rice to some parts of China, where droughts often took place and made it impossible to grow the other kind of rice, and sometimes led to famine, the people have now become fortunately free from the calamity. In some of the southern provinces of Japan two crops of rice are raised in the year. The first crop is planted early in spring, and harvested in July; then the late variety is planted, and harvested in early winter. The field must be fertile, and the same land should not be used for two years successively. This second crop is better in quality than common rice, though the quantity is less.

Harvesting.

There are several ways of drying rice after harvesting. Some spread it on the ground, and leave it for three or four days, when it is taken in. Some make it into bundles and let them stand on their butts. But the best way, as I stated before, is to make it into bundles, and hang them on a frame made for the purpose. By this means one day only is sufficient for the bundles to dry; a large amount of good grains may be secured; they may escape insect injuries when stored, as they are sufficiently dry; they are bright colored, and there are very few "dead rice," if there be any; by *dead rice* I mean grains of bad condition, both in color and taste. Where the sun does not shine all the day, as in valleys, this is the best and quickest way of drying rice. A very good, intoxicating liquor, (sake) can be made from the rice dried in this way.

Threshing is generally done by drawing bundles through a frame, set with iron teeth; a horizontal, rectangular board, three feet in length, and of convenient size, on four legs, is set with twenty nails five or six inches long, which are arranged in a row, and all a little slanting from one side. Thus in this respect, as in many others, our method is contrary to what is done in this country; that is, we beat bundles or grain against a frame, instead of beating them with a flail as done here.

Harvesting is done by sickles only. Grains are generally made into bundles as soon as they are cut.

There are various forms of disease in rice. Some of their principal causes, so far as I know, are drying up the land, too liberal manuring at the time when the plant is quite young, negligence of seed selection, imperfect aeration, thick planting in a seed bed, planting after the proper season, poor soils, insect injuries, &c.

A JAPANESE RICE FIELD.

Drawn by a Japanese Artist, expressly for the New England Farmer.

EXPLANATION.

A—Preparing Rice Field.
B—Pulling the young plants from the seed bed.
C—Setting out the young plants.
D—Harvesting.
E—Drying bundles on frames.
F—Common farmer's cottage.
G—Device to scare away the birds.
H—Man pouring water from a pond into the field.

The "scare crows" represented at G, are made thus: take rectangular pieces of board of a convenient size, say 12 inches by 7; suspend on one face of each board, near the upper edge, a number of short sticks of bamboo, attaching them with strings, so that they will make a noise by rattling against the board when it is shaken. These boards are hung to long ropes, which are stretched in several direcions over the field from a central post, the ends of

weight. This dressing on pasture land will last seven or eight years, and on mowed land about half that period.

New England Farmer.

BOSTON:

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1883.

The potato rot is said to be more destructive in New Hampshire this year than for twenty-five years previous, owing probably to the extremely wet weather.

Hon. George B. Loring, United States Commissioner of Agriculture, and President of the New England Agricultural Society, will deliver the opening address at the Fair at Manchester, week after next.

Preparations for the New England Fair at Manchester, are in a much more forward condition than has been usually the case ten days before the opening of the exhibition, and everything now points to a large and attractive show.

Our Canadian neighbors are inclined to grumble at one feature of the new postage law of the United States. By the agreement between this country and the Dominion, letters from either country will be delivered in the other, on the payment simply of its own domestic postage. As long as both countries charged the same rate of domestic postage, this worked well enough, but after the 1st of October, when the reduction in the United postage rates goes into effect, Canadians will have to pre-pay their United States letters at 3 cents per half ounce, while their Yankee correspondents will get off by pre-paying only two cents. This is almost as bad as the Halifax fishery award.

There is a curious little complication between the Internal Revenue Bureau, and the makers of certain varieties of "bitters." The bitters men have always claimed that their productions were medicines, and have accordingly stamped their bottles. Now that the stamp tax is removed, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue has been having the bitters analyzed, and finding that some of them contain as high as 65 per cent of proof spirits, being simply whiskey disguised, and very thinly disguised at that, he has decided that persons who sell them will have to take out special licenses as retail liquor dealers. How this will affect apothecaries and grocery-men in "prohibition" States, should the local authorities take the same view of the subject, is a curious question.

The master of a British barque, whose Chinese carpenter deserted the ship recently in this port, was arrested for illegally bringing a Chinese laborer into the country. Judge Lowell, however, has decided that although the laborer in question looks like a Chinaman, talks like a Chinaman, and acts like a Chinaman, and although his father and mother, and all his ancestors were unmitigated Chinese, still, as the man himself was born in Hong Kong since its cession to the English government, and was never a subject of China, or a resident in the Chinese empire, he is to be regarded simply as a subject of Queen Victoria, and not inhibited by law from landing or residing in this country, in short, that—

> It's greatly to his credit
> That he is an Englishman.

When Captain Webb lost his life in attempting to swim the rapids of Niagara, it was declared by a great many short-sighted moralists, that the question of the possibility of any person going alive through those rapids was now definitely and forever settled in the negative, but this is so far from being the case that there have since been at least half a dozen enthusiasts who have expressed their intention to try it, and the Canadian authorities have felt called upon to issue a warning to all parties who may attempt the feat from the Canada side of the river, that they will be treated as dangerous lunatics and arrested by the police. The latest crank on the subject seems to have got an idea somehow that the United States government has offered a reward of $50,000 to any one who will make the attempt and succeed, and he announces that that is what he is going to try for. Congress has done some things fully as foolish as to offer such a reward, and it is perhaps not to be wondered at that this lunatic should have persuaded himself that it would endow him with a fortune as a reward for his foolishness.

We find the statement in the New York *Market Journal*, that John G. Borden, the well-known manufacturer of condensed milk, has given notice that for one month he shall close his Walden factory, on account of the frauds practised on him by the parties of whom he gets his milk. He claims that out of between 300 and 400 farmers from whom he receives his milk, only seven deal honestly by him, all the others diluting or skimming their milk to such an extent that it is not profitable to attempt to condense it. He thinks it possible that depriving these parties of a market for a few weeks, may induce them to reform their practices in this particular. His statement seems rather an extravagant one, but it has the excellent reputation and high business character of Mr. Borden and the company he represents to back it up. It is, however, calculated for the meridian of Orange County, N. Y., and not for New England, and we do not believe that a community of farmers could be found in New England against which such an accusation as that brought by Mr. Borden against his neighbors would not be a slander.

We are sorry to see that the free scholarships at the Agricultural College, offered by the Legislaure, are not so fully appreciated as they should be, the examinations in some of

MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Last Saturday was prize day for gladioli, and a very fine display was made, though probably not so good as if the weather had not been so dry. The prize stands contained many novel and beautiful colors. Five out of the seven prizes awarded, including the two highest prizes, were taken by Worcester cultivators. John C. Hovey exhibited two new hybrids, Lemoinii and Marie Lemoine, which attracted much attention. Edwin Fewke's collection comprised several novelties, among which were *Cosmos sp.*, a Mexican arrival, of dark, rich maroon color, *Chamæpuci sp.*, *Chrysanthemum carinatum* in several improved varieties, *Clianthus Dampieri*, Salpiglossis, *Canna irridiflora*, Ehemanni, &c. Hon. Francis B. Hayes, president of the society, made an extensive display of fine specimens of hybrid perpetual roses, asters, dahlias, zinnias, hydrangea, &c. E. L. Beard exhibited the new tuberous-rooted begonias in variety. Beside the gladioli before mentioned, John C. Hovey presented *Montbretia crocosmæflora*, a charming little flower of rich orange and yellow color, belonging to the *Iridaceæ* and *Clematis Davidiana*, or hyacinth-flowered clematis, with pale blue flowers, a unique species. The display of fruits was extensive and of fine quality. A large number of dishes of Clapp's Favorite pears was presented; also fine specimens of the Williams apple. Mrs. Benjamin Fobes exhibited figs which would have taken the first prize if they had been placed on the table in season. The display of vegetables was extensive, and all so good that it is difficult to particularize any.

Awards for flowers—Gladioli, twenty varieties, Mrs. T. L. Nelson; second prize, O. B. Hadwen. Ten varieties, F. Bacheller. Six varieties, F. Bacheller; second prize to Mrs. T. L. Nelson. Single spike, O. B. Hadwen, for Baroness Burdett-Coutts. General display, James Cartwright. Cut flowers, named annuals, Mrs. E. M. Gill; *Phlox Drummondi*, Mrs. T. L. Nelson; second prize, James Nugent. Herbaceous plants, Mrs. L. P. Weston. Gratuities to Francis B. Hayes, for roses, dahlias, &c.; Edwin Fewkes, for roses, &c.; Warren Heustis, for hybrid perpetual roses; C. L. Alden, for seeding gladioli; J. F. C. Hyde, for gladiolus, Ayde's White; E. Sheppard, for dahlias; Daniel Duffley, for helianthus; John C. Hovey, for Gladiolus Lemoinii and Marie Lemoine and Clematis Davidiana, and Mrs. L. P. Weston, Mrs. E. M. Gill, W. K. Wood, John Parker, and Miss S. W. Story for general displays.

A first-class certificate of merit was awarded to C. L. Allen & Co., of Queens, N. Y., for Gladioli Martha Washington, Emma Thursby and Bayard Taylor, and one to John C. Hovey for *Montbretia crocosmæflora*.

Award for fruits: Red Astrachan apples, J. T. Foster; second prize to C. C. Shaw. Williams apples, Joseph G. Coolidge; second prize to Samuel Hartwell. Clapp's Favorite pears, Horace Eaton; second prize to Warren Fenno. Manning's Elizabeth pears, Mrs. Mary Langmaid; second prize to Warren Fenno. Any other variety, C. N. Brackett; second prize to Hovey & Co., both for Brandywine. Figs, Francis B. Hayes for Brown Turkey.

Gratuities to Horace Partridge for Macready's Early White grapes; Samuel Hartwell for pears, apples and peaches; Robert Manning for pears and blackberries; George Frost, Warren Fenno and M. W. Chadbourne for pears, and Mrs. Benjamin Fobes for figs.

Awards for vegetables: Greenflesh melons, George Hill; muskmelons, Samuel Hartwell; Large Round Purple egg plants, J. G. Coolidge; second prize to Daniel Duffley. Gratuities to Samuel Hartwell and Francis B. Hayes for collections; C. E. Grant for Lima beans, and C. N. Brackett and J. G. Coolidge for tomatoes.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

MAGAZINES.

The *North American Review* for September is in every way an admirably constituted number. First comes "State Regulation of Corporate Profits," by Chief Justice Cooley, of Michigan, showing how far, by wise legislation, and by applying in the spirit of enlightened jurisprudence the principles of the common law, the exactions of corporate companies and monopolies may be restrained, and the interests of the people conserved. John A. Kasson, M. C., writes on "Municipal Reform," and offers suggestions for the abatement of the evils of misgovernment in our great municipalities. Richard Grant White treats of "Class Distinctions in the United States," a subject that is destined to occupy more and more the attention of the American people, as great fortunes increase. "Shooting at Sight" is the subject of some pertinent reflections by James Jackson, Chief Justice of the State of Georgia. In "Facts about the Caucus and the Primary," George Walton Green unveils the tricks practised by political managers in large cities. W. H. Mallock contributes "Conversations with a Solitary," in which he sets forth with much ingenuity the arguments adverse to popular government. The Rev. Dr. D. S. Phelan contributes an article sparkling with epigrams, on the "Limitations of Freethinking." Grant Allen, the most charming of all living writers on natural history, discourses on "An American Wild Flower." Published at 30 Lafayette Place, New York, and for sale by booksellers generally.

The September number of the *Atlantic Monthly* opens with an instalment of Mr. Crawford's attractive and powerful story, "A Roman Singer." Henry James' charming "En Province" is continued, from Bourges to La Rochelle being the ground traversed. There is an able political article entitled "Our Nominating Machines," and dealing with the evils of the caucus system which the author considers as the results of the "spoils system" in office holding. "Poets and Birds" is the title of a caustic review of several papers on the same subject which have recently appeared in some English and American magazines. H. H. tells of her Edinburgh wanderings in her usual delightful manner. Dr. Holmes has a charming poem entitled "King's Chapel." Other articles in the number are a continuation of Mr. Lathrop's "Newport"; a commonplace story "Annexed by the Tsar"; "Along an Inland Beach, "by Edith M. Thomas; "Merimee in his Letters," by Marie Louise Henry; "Character in Feathers," by Bradley Torrey; "Lily of Strath-Farrar," by Thomas William Parsons, and criticisms on the Compte de Paris's "Civil War in America, "Mark Twain's "Life on the Mississippi, "M. R. Vincton's "In the Shadow of the Prenees," and the lives of Thurlow Weed and William Cullen Bryant

The leading illustrated article in the September *Century*, describes Cape Cod, and delineates some of its peculiar scenery in a number of beautiful drawings. Edward Eggleston's paper summarizing the Indian wars of the American colonies, is also very handsomely illustrated. Roger Riordan has a very suggestive article entitled, "Ornamental Forms in Nature," but we doubt if his conclusions will meet with universal acceptance. Lieutenant Schwatka describes "A Musk-Ox Hunt," in which he participated during his Arctic journey, and several stirring cuts accompany his paper. There are two portraits, one of Robert Burns, accompanying a charming account by H. H. of a pilgrimage to the localities made famous by the genius of the poet; the other of Prof. Agissaz, accompanying a brief article on his laboratory at Newport. John Burroughs has a characteristic article describing the dangers that threaten the birds in the nesting season. William C. Conant endeavors to show that New York is destined to become the metropolis of the world; Uncle Remus makes his final appearance; Frank Stockton has one of his inimitable short stories; there is another short story, dressing up modern ideas and characters in the quaint style and words of three hundred years ago, and the two serial stories are continued. "Breadwinners," the new anonymous story, is exciting a great deal of interest and curiosity as to its authorship. The poetry of the number is generally excellent, and the editorial departments are are full of timely thoughts on current topics.

Lippincott's Magazine for September has an attractive table of contents. An Italian watering-place, "Viareggio," is the subject of an illustrated paper. "An Episode of John Brown's Raid," gives an account of the adventures of Capt. Cook. "In Suspense" is a production, apparently from the pen of an English writer well acquainted with Carlyle, Bishop Wilberforce, and Beaconsfield, who are introduced as parties in a colloquy which takes place in purgatory. "Five Graves in Montana," by S. B. Griffin, traces the history of a notorious gang of "road agents," and the stringent measures by which life and property were made secure in the Territory. "Our Summer Court in Schoharie," by P. Deming, is a very pleasant rural sketch, and "The Metropolis of the Farm," by C. Bruce, calls up all the associations connected with barns, treating the subject from an economical as well as picturesque point of view. "The Jewel in the Lotos," maintains its interest; and the short stories, "Delia Grimwet," by Arlo Bates; "The Worst Man in the Troop," by Capt. Charles King, and "The Discipline of Paper Dolls," by Annie Eliot, are varied and entertaining. There are, as usual, several good things in the "Monthly Gossip."

"I HAVE used Ellis' Spavin Cure for *Thrush* and *Stocked Legs*," says Geo. R. Henderson, 268 Tremont Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. "*Its a perfect success.*" True.

A GRAND picnic for the deaf mute delegates from all the States and Canada is announced for the last of this month.

DR. GRAVES' Heart Regulator cures all forms of Heart Disease, nervousness and sleeplessness.

A SOCIETY has been formed in London to combat the ravages of sewer gas. By the payment of $5 a year every member is entitled to have his house inspected by the society's engineers, and its condition pointed out to him.

APPLE CROP.

A *Market Journal* reporter, in conversation with Mr. Charles Forster, the representative of several of the most important fruit houses abroad, learned that the European fruit outlook indicates a larger yield than that of last season.

In no part of the apple producing districts of Europe will there be a scarcity, and it is probable that Great Britain will market more fruit than for several seasons past. While this will tend to check an early inquiry for American apples, he sees no good reason why a healthy demand for the better varieties of our winter stock should not be looked for.

Our English neighbors have gradually grown accustomed to look to America for a goodly supply of late apples, until the former custom of storing their own supplies, is gradually, but surely being being abolished.

While agreeing with the general report of a light crop of American apples, he thinks that the aggregate will reach the proportions of last season, during which 400,000 barrels were shipped abroad.

The increased acreage annually coming into bearing, swells the aggregate, even in "off" years like this, to large proportions. What the yield would be in another larger season like that of 1880-81, it is difficult to conjecture; but with good foreign demand now firmly established, it is not unlikely that we could profitably export double the quantity of American apples then utilized abroad. The danger to the apple export business largely arises from a general feeling among growers, that Europe will take our surplus product at any price. This is a mistake; and until the custom among dealers, in seasons like the present, of paying fictitious prices is abolished, there will be no money in "off years" in the export business.

The home indications are that at no particular point will the crop be a large one, neither in the Hudson River Valley, Niagara County, or in the great new bearing sections of Missouri and Kansas, but the crop is more evenly distributed, and when all gathered will amount to a great many apples.

Early indications pointed toward an immense crop, but later developments proved otherwise, and some growers commenced to cry a very limited one, but they forget that many new orchards, both here and in the West, are just commencing to bear, consequently no great dearth will be likely to result.

MASSACHUSETTS CROPS.—The Massachusetts agent of the Department of Agriculture says of the condition of the principal crops on the first of August, that July was, on the whole, a very favorable month for the growth of all the important crops grown in our State. Indian corn the first of August looks quite as promising as it did the first of July. The rains have come just often enough to keep the soil in the best condition for rapid growth. Potatoes (Irish) continue to maintain the same high condition as they did in June. They have now advanced so far as to make it quite certain that the harvest will be very large. Pastures are in excellent condition. Timothy hay in the eastern counties is not quite up to an average, but in the other counties it is enough to make the crop in the State an average. The apple crop promises better in the eastern than the centre and western counties.

"THEIR OCCUPATION GONE."

R. V. PIERCE, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y.: I was attacked with congestion of the lungs, soreness over the liver, severe pain in the joints, a burning fever, and general giving away of the whole system. Failing to find relief in remedies prescribed, I tried your "Golden Medical Discovery." It effected my cure. Your medicines have only to be used to be appreciated. Every family would give them a trial, nine-tenths of the doctors would, like Othello, find their occupation gone. Yours truly,

L. B. MCMILLAN, M. D., Breesport, N. Y.

Miscellaneous Items.

☞ Work has been begun on the new steel cruisers for the United States navy.

☞ The drought has greatly injured the South Carolina cotton crop.

☞ Benson, Vt, celebrated its one hundredth anniversary on Tuesday.

☞ A new telegraph company, the National, will soon have a line from New York to Chicago.

☞ The Cheshire House block in Keene, N. H., was destrroyed by fire on Monday, the property loss aggregating $23,000.

☞ A destructive cyclone swept through Chattanooga and other portions of Tennessee, on Wednesday.

☞ Oxford county, Me., has the largest hay crop ever known—at least, for the past thirty years.

☞ The one hundred and sixth anniversary of the battle of Bennington, was observed at Bennington, Vt., on the 16th inst.

☞ The United States Rolling Stock Company's buildings in Chicago, were burned last week, Wednesday night; loss half a million.

☞ It is estimated that the total output of silver dollars in 1883, will be eighteen millions.

☞ The Second National Bank of Warren, Ohio, has been obliged to close its doors, owing to the defalcation of its cashier.

☞ The shoe factory of Robert McCready & Co., at Montreal was destroyed by fire on Sunday last, the loss amounting to $125,000.

☞ Timothy F. Griswold, a well known citizen of Burlington, Vt., was accidentally drowned in Lake Champlain last week.

☞ During the last month 46,220 emigrants arrived at the ten principal revenue districts of the country, against 65,000 in July last year.

☞ Thursday afternoon a cyclone struck Oglesby, Tex., demolishing the station and a store, and scattering the goods all over the prairie. A man was blown two hundred feet.

☞ The operating room of the Western Union Telegraph Company at Chicago was burned on Tuesday and communication with points west is temporarily cut off.

☞ A man just returned from the Oklahoma country says there are 600 colonists scattered along its streams, who intend to stay unless expelled by armed forces.

☞ The disease known as pink eye is very prevalent among horses at Lowell, and the fatality among the horses from other causes has been great.

☞ On Thursday of last week the town of Boscawen, N. H., celebrated her 150th anniversary. A granite monument marking the spot where the first church stood, was dedicated, and speeches were made in a big tent.

☞ The town of Revere, Mass., voted the other day to move the primary school rather than disturb a couple of liquor dealers, who were located within the prohibited 400 feet of the schoolhouse.

☞ Nearly four thousand Knights Templars paraded in San Francisco on Monday afternoon, and the pageant is pronounced the most brilliant one ever witnessed on the Pacific coast.

☞ Yellow fever has appeared at the Pensacola, Florida, navy yard. The city authorities have established a line of military pickets, to keep persons from infected districts from entering the city.

☞ Early Sunday morning two barns, carriage-house, stables and other out-buildings, belonging to James H. Hamilton, at Harrison, Me., were totally burned, together with 125 tons of hay, farming tools, harness, &c.

☞ At Garden City, Long Island, Sunday morning, a flock of sheep on the A. T. Stewart farm, were struck by lightning under a tree where they had taken refuge, and forty of them were killed, and twenty severely injured.

☞ A pirate schooner is alleged to have been sunk by a steamer, off the New Jersey coast on Friday. It is probable, however, that the schooner was in distress, and the steamer was endeavoring to go to her assistance.

☞ Commander Merriman, commander of the U. S. steamer Adams at Alaska, reports to the Navy Department that he has visited the different Indian tribes in Alaska, and that everything is quiet and in good order in that Territory.

☞ Considerable damage was done in some parts of eastern Massachusetts by the thunder storm of Monday evening. Barns and other buildings were struck at Shirley and Leominster; at Littleton one man was killed by lightning.

☞ Captains of whaling vessels who have lately returned from the Arctic Ocean say that the past year has been the most severe ever known in those high latitudes, and express a great deal of doubt as to the possibility of reaching and relieving the Greeley party.

☞ The San Francisco Grain Exchange committee has issued a statement showing that the wheat yield in the various counties of California this year is 53,000,000 bushels, an increase of 14,000,000 bushels over 1882. The total barley yield this year is 15,000,000 bushels, an increase over 1882 of 2,500,000 bushels.

☞ Arrangements are being made for excursions to the New England Institute Fair over all the railroads leading into Boston. Last year there were nearly 100 excursions; this year Mr. A. H. Dexter, the excursion agent, intends to arrange for 150. The goods for exhibition at the fair are arriving now every day, and the managers are doing their best to have all the exhibits in good order on the opening day.

☞ Edmund Wood, a farmer of Deering N. H., was fatally shot on Saturday night by some person unknown. Mr. Wood was driving in a wagon, and was shot from behind, the murderer evidently having stood very near him. No robbery was committed, the motive of the deed being probably revenge or malice. Great excitement prevails in the neighborhood, and a thorough investigation is in progress.

☞ The Canadian Rivers are higher than ever before, and great damage is being done. A part of the city of Toronto is flooded. All the bridges and several houses are washed away at Ethel. The river at New Hamburg is ten feet above the usual height, and great damage was done to the town and surrounding villages. The Martland River at Wingham is still rising at the rate of six inches an hour. Farms along the bank are covered with water and thousands of dollars' worth of grain is ruined. Lower Wingham is flooded and the water is advancing upon the business part of the town. Some loss of life is also reported.

☞ Rufus Hatch, Russell Sage, Cyrus W. Field and other prominent financiers take a very hopeful view of the situation, and predict a prosperous season succeeding the local disturbances.

☞ With reference to the reported outbreak of the foot and mouth disease among Canada cattle in Bristol, the Canadian shippers have not credited it, and the Montreal veterinary college officers declare emphatically that it does not exist in Canada.

☞ A locomotive on the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, ran into a train on the Kentucky Central last Friday, at the crossing of the two roads, near Winchester, Ky. It happened that the car that was struck, contained 400 kegs of powder, and of course an explosion was the result, killing two men and seriously injuring five others, besides destroying the depot, the locomotive, several cars, and considerable other property.

☞ The present season has been remarkably favorable for honey in Addison county, Vt. The market price is now eighteen cents per pound, but dealers say they will soon be able to purchase cartloads of it at twelve cents per pound. The copious rains through the spring and summer months have induced a splendid growth of white and red clover, which is favorable to honey.

COULD HARDLY STAND ON HER FEET.

R. V. PIERCE, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y.: *Dear Sir* —I *must* tell you what your medicine has done for me. Before taking your "Favorite Prescription" I could hardly stand on my feet, but, by following your advice, I am perfectly cured. The "Favorite Prescription" is a wonderful medicine for debilitated and nervous females. I cannot express how thankful I am to you for your advice.

Yours truly,

MRS. CORNELIA ALLISON, Peosta, Ia.

The Markets.

BOSTON RETAIL PRICES.

Inside of Faneuil Hall Market.

WEDNESDAY, Aug. 22, 1883.

[Corrected weekly by HILTON & WOODWARD, No. 5, *Veal and Mutton*; GEO. H. RUSSELL, Nos. 17 & 19, *Poultry and Game*; H. BIRD & CO., Nos. 38 & 40, *Beef, Pork, Lard and Hams*; CROSBY, BROS. & CO., Nos. 57 & 59, *Butter, Cheese and Eggs*; SANDS, FURBER & CO., Nos. 88 & 90, *Fruit and Vegetables*; SHATTUCK & JONES, No. 128, *Fish*; GEO. E. RICHARDSON & CO., No. 1, F. H. Square, *Fruit and Nuts.*]

Butter, Cheese and Eggs.

Butter, ₩ lb—		Cheese, ₩ lb	11 @ 15
Lump,	25 @ 50	Sage,	14 @ 18
Creamery,	25 @ 30	Brie, each,	@ 30
Prime tub,	22 @ 25	Neufchatel, ea	@ 6
2d quality,	20 @ 22	Eggs, ₩ doz	20 @ 28
common,	15 @ 18	Capo,	@ 33

Fruits and Berries.

Apples—₩ pk	50 @ 60	Grapes—₩ lb	6 @ 10
Blackberries, bx	15 @ 20	Lemons, ₩ doz	25 @ 30
Blueberries, bx	15 @ 18	Muskmelons, ea	@ 30
Canteloupes, ea	15 @ 25	Oranges, ₩ doz	50 @ 75
Cranberries, qt	@ 20	Pineapples, ea	15 @ 25
Cocoanuts, ea	5 @ 8	Watermelons, ea	20 @ 30

Fruits and Nuts—Dry and Canned.

Almonds, ₩ lb	20 @ 30	Prunes, ₩ lb	@ 20
Apples, ₩ lb	@ 10	Peaches, ₩ qt can	@ 20
Castana, ₩ lb	@ 10	₩ qt can	@ 35
Citron, ₩ lb	@ 20	Raisins, jay's	@ 16
Dates, ₩ lb	@ 10	Raisins, ₩ lb	@ 10
Figs, ₩ lb	@ 15	Shagbarks, ₩ qt	@ 8
Filberts, ₩ lb	@ 20	Walnuts, Eng.	@ 20
Peanuts, ₩ lb	@ 15	Naples,	@ 20
Pecans,	@ 17	Zante currants, lb	@ 12

Vegetables.

Beans, ₩ pk	87 @ 1 00	Onions, ₩ pk	@ 50
string, ₩ pk	@ 30	Peas, split, ₩ qt	@ 10
shell, ₩ qt	@ 25	green, pk	@ 50
Beets, ₩ pk	@ 25	Potatoes, ₩ pk	@ 25
Egg plants, ea	15 @ 20	₩ bushel	82 @ 1 00
Cabbages, ea	10 @ 12	₩ bbl	1 75 @ 2 00
Carrots, ₩ pk	@ 37	Sage and Thyme—	
Cauliflowers,	25 @ 50	₩ bch	@ 6
Celery, bch	@ 15	Squashes—	
Cucumbers, ea	@ 2	Marrow, ₩ lb	@ 3
Green corn, ₩ dz	12 @ 15	Summer, ea	@ 6
Lettuce, ₩ head	@ 5	Tomatoes, qt	@ 5
Mushrooms, lb	50 @ 75	Turnips, ₩ pk	@ 35

Meats—Fresh.

Beef, ₩ lb—		Mutton—	
Sirloin steak	22 @ 28	legs, ₩ lb	13 @ 17
Round do.	15 @ 25	fore qr, ₩ lb	10 @ 13
Rib, roast	15 @ 22	chops, ₩ lb	17 @ 23
Chuck rib	10 @ 12	Pork, ₩ lb—	
Soup pieces	@ 10	Roast & steak	11 @ 13
Liver	@ 10	Suet, ₩ lb	@ 11
Hasket, sheep, ea	@ 10	Tallow, ₩ lb	@ 10
Lamb—		Veal, hind qr, ₩ lb	17 @ 20
hind qr, ₩ lb	13 @ 20	fore qr	10 @ 13
fore qr, ₩ lb	10 @ 15	loins,	15 @ 25
Lard, leaf, ₩ lb	12 @ 15	Sweetbreads, ea	30 @ 50
Tried,	13 @ 15		

Meats—Salt, Smoked, &c.

Pork, hams, ₩ lb	13 @ 16	Smoked, ea	87 @ 1 00
Bacon, ₩ lb	12 @ 15	Sheep do. ₩ dz	@ 50
Shoulders, ₩ lb	10 @ 13	Pigs' feet, ₩ lb	@ 8
Salt, ₩ lb	@ 10	Spareribs, ₩ lb	@ 15
Beef, corned, ₩ lb	9 @ 12	Bologna, ₩ lb	12 @ 15
Smoked, ₩ lb	20 @ 25	Tripe, ₩ lb	10 @ 15
Tongues, ₩ lb	13 @ 15		

Poultry and Game.

Chickens, ₩ lb	20 @ 30	Pigeons, ₩ doz	00 @ 2 50
spring, ₩ lb	25 @ 35	squabs, ₩ pr	75 @ 1 00
Ducks, choice, lb	25 @ 28	Pigs, sck'g, ea	1 50 @ 3 00
Fowls, ₩ lb	18 @ 20	quarters, ₩ lb	10 @ 15
Geese, ₩ lb	13 @ 15	Turkeys,	
Green, ₩ lb	18 @ 20	choice, ₩ lb	25 @ 30

Fish—Fresh.

Bass, ₩ lb	20 @ 20	Halibut, ₩ lb	15 @ 15
Bluefish, ₩ lb	12 @ 12	chicken, ₩ lb	17 @ 17
Cod, ₩ lb	7 @ 7	Mackerel, ea	10 @ 15
pickled, ₩ qt	15 @ 15	Spanish, ₩ lb	25 @ 25
tongues, ₩ lb	15 @ 15	Perch, doz	10 @ 10
cheeks, ₩ lb	10 @ 10	Pickerel, ₩ lb	12 @ 15
liver oil, qt	40 @ 40	Trout, salmon, ₩ lb	15 @ 15
Cusk, ₩ lb	6 @ 6	Brook, ₩ lb	25 @ 25
Eels, ₩ lb	15 @ 15	Salmon, lb	30 @ 30
Flounders, ea	6 @ 10	Sturgeon, ₩ lb	8 @ 8
Haddock, ₩ lb	5 @ 6	Swordfish, ₩ lb	15 @ 15

Fish—Dry, Smoked, Shell, &c.

Cod, dry, ₩ lb	8 @ 10	Mackerel—	
Clams, ₩ gall	@ 75	Salt, each	@ 8
Crabs, soft shell, dz	1 00	Salt, ₩ kit	3 00 @ 5 00
Green turtles, lb	@ 20	Lobster, ₩ lb	@ 10
Halibut, smkd, ₩ lb	17 @ 17	Oysters—Cotuit, stew	
Fins, ₩ lb	@ 12	₩ gall	1 00 @ 1 40
Herrings, do. ₩ dz	@ 20	Salmon, smkd, lb	20 @ 25
Pickled, ₩ box	@ 35	Shelled, ₩ qt	@ 20
Little neck clams—		Tongues and Sounds—	
₩ 100	@ 50	₩ lb	@ 12½

BOSTON PRODUCE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY, August 22, 1883.

The produce market is fairly active, and there is a good distributing trade in all articles which come under this head, the dealers in fruit and garden truck especially, being very busy.

Butter.—Receipts of the week 16,660 pkgs and 1476 bxs. There is a firmer feeling all round, and especially for choice lots of creamery and fresh dairies, which are quoted higher, and in only moderate supply. We quote choice fresh northern and creamery at 22@23c ₩ lb; good to choice do at 21@22c; Western dairy at 14@ 17c; ladle-packed at 12½@15c; fair to good at 11@13c; fresh Vermont creamery at 23@24c; fresh New York and Vermont dairies at 20@21c; Franklin county at 21 @22c; fair to good at 15@18c.

The Albans butter market on Tuesday was higher and firm, prices having advanced from 1c to 2c per lb. The general price was 20@21c per lb, against 19@20c last week; selections 22@23c, against 21@22c; fair to good 17@18c, against 17@18c. The shipments were 1200 tubs.

Cheese.—Receipts of the week 10,862 boxes and — pkgs. The market is still very dull and prices are substantially unchanged, 9½@ per lb being a quotable price for large lots of good quality, though some dealers and factories sell in a jobbing way at a little higher figure. Lower grades are offered at buyers' prices, but sales are small.

At Utica, N. Y., 10,200 box cheese were sold at 8@ 9½c; ruling price, 9c. The sales on commission were 1500 bxs. The market is in much the same condition as last week, but there are indications of strength that promise higher prices.

Eggs.—Receipts of the week 4950 boxes and 19 bbls. There is rather a short supply, and prices are quoted higher, with a still advancing tendency. We quote fresh Eastern at 23@25c; Northern, New York and Vermont at 22@24c, and Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick eggs at 22@22½c per doz.

Beans.—The market has been fairly active and prices are steady for good stock. Receipts continue very small. We quote large hand-picked pea beans at $2 30 per bush; choice New York State small hand-picked do at $2 ₩@2 50; do Vermont at $2 55 per bush, and choice screened do at $1 90@2 25 bush; hand-picked medium at $2 20@2 25, and choice screened do at $2 10@2 15; common beans at $1 90@2 10 per bush; choice improved yellow-eyes at $3 70@3 75; old-fashioned yellow-eyes at $3 55@3 60, and red kidneys nominal at $3 25@3 50.

Vegetables.—Potatoes are quoted a little lower, and the market is well supplied with stock of excellent quality, at $1 65@1 75 per bbl. Sweet potatoes are selling at $2 50@3 50 per bbl for red and yellow. Green corn is selling at $1 00@1 25 per bbl; beets at 40@50c per bush; turnips at $1 00@1 25 per bbl; cabbage at $5 00@8 00 per 100; tomatoes at 40@60c per bush; marrow squash at $1 00@1 25 per bbl; turban squash at $2 00@2 50 per bbl; cucumbers at 1½@c each; lettuce at 25@35c per doz; carrots at 75c@$1 per bush; parsnips at 50@60c per dozen bunches; celery at $1 50 @2 00 per doz; egg plant at $2 00 per doz.

Fruit.—Apples are arriving quite freely, and prices take a wide range; a bushel box of fancy apples this morning sold for $4 00, and there is some fruit that can be bought for $2 per bbl; good Nyack pippins are quoted at $3 per bbl. Bartlett pears are selling at $4 @ 4 50. The market is full of peaches, but really choice fruit is scarce, and sells on arrival at $2 00@2 50 per basket. Blueberries are very scarce, dropping rapidly, towards the middle of the afternoon, and getting hardly quotable by noon the next day. Much of the fruit arrives in poor condition, and has to be sold low. Thinland grapes are selling at $2 25@2 50 per crate. Watermelons sold at $10@20 per 100, and muskmelons at $3@ 3 75 per bbl.

Poultry.—The demand is moderate. The supply of fresh fowls has increased and prices are lower. Squabs have also declined. Spring chickens are at 20 @25c per lb. We quote fresh fowls at 16@18c per lb; green geese at 17@19c; ducks at 20@25c, and fresh-killed turkeys dull at 23@25c for good to choice. Philadelphia squabs are steady at $2 50@3 00 per doz.

Fresh Meats.—The return of warm weather has somewhat diminished the call for fresh meats of all kinds; we quote beef at 11½@12½c per lb for hind quarters, and 5@6c for fore do. Choice spring lambs sell at 10@11c per lb, common to good 7@8c. We quote choice mutton at 9@10c per lb; common to fair at 8@ 9c; Eastern veal at 9@10c; common at 7@8c; Worcester county at 10@12c.

Hay and Straw.—Receipts of hay have been large, but a great deal of it has been of inferior quality, and really good choice stock is scarce, and in good demand. We quote choice prime hay at $17 00@18 00 per ton, fancy higher; medium hay at $15 00@16 00; choice Eastern fine at $14 00@15 00; poor at $10 00@13 00, and coarse at $9 00@11 00, with Eastern swale at $9 00. Rye straw in moderate supply at $15 00@15 00, and oat straw at $9 00 per ton.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

New York, Aug. 21, 1883.—Cotton—market weak; forward deliveries dull; middling uplands at 10½c; do New Orleans at 10½c. Flour—market quite firm, but prices without quotable change; export demand light, with a very moderate local trade inquiry; sales: No 2 at $2 50@3 65; Superfine Western and State at $3 20@ 4 00; common to good extra at $4 10@4 80; good to choice do $4 60@7 25; common to choice white wheat Western extra at $6 25@7 00; fancy do at $7 10@7 50; common to good extra Ohio at $4 10@6 75; common to choice extra St. Louis at $4 10@7 00; good to prime Minnesota extra at $5 70@6 75; choice to double extra do at $6 80@7 50; Southern firmly held; common to fair extra at $4 25@5 30; good to choice do at $5 35@ 6 87½. Rye flour stronger at $3 65@4 60 for superfine. Corn—more steady; yellow Western at $3 00@3 40; Brandywine at $3 40@3 50.

Wheat—spot grades steady and without quotable change; export demand only moderate, and speculation slow; sales: No 4 red at $1 09½@1 10; No 3 red at $1 05½@1 06½; No 2 red August at $1 17½@1 18½; do September at $1 18@1 18½; do October at $1 20½@1 21½; do November at $1 22½@1 23½. Rye stronger; sales: Western at 73½c. Barley malt quiet. Corn—spot lots firm; options strong, with a light trade; sales: No 3 at 60c; No 2 at 61c; No 2 white at 66½c; Southern yellow at 60c; No 2 September at 61½@62c; do October at 59@59½c; do November at 61½@62c. Oats—spot, higher; closing firm; sales: No 2 at 35½c; do white at 38c; No 2 at 35½@35½c; do white at 42c; No 1 at 35½c; do white at 56c; mixed Western at 35@38c; white do at 40@48c; No 2 September at 34½@34½c; do October at 35½@35½c; do November at 36@36½c. Pork held firmly; sales; mess on the spot at $14 50; options neglected. Beef nominal. Beef hams quiet at 30c. Tierce beef weak; city extra India mess at $18 00@19 50. Cut meats unsettled; hams at 13¼@13½c; middles nominal; long clear at 7½c. Lard—market excited and irregular; sales: prime ste

New England Farmer,

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY, BY

DARLING & KEITH,

34 Merchants Row, Boston, Mass.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Advertisements, 1st insertion, 12 cts. per line.
Each subsequent insertion, 8 " " "
Business Notices, first " 15 " " "
Each subsequent " 12 " " "
Reading Matter Notices, . . 50 " " "

Advertisements must be sent in as early in the week on Tuesday, to secure insertion.

Advertisers are charged for the space occupied in solid nonpareil measure.

Transient advertising must be prepaid.

Cuts inserted without extra charge.

No advertisement inserted for less than one dollar.

Special terms for Probate and Farm Advertising.

☞ The above are *net* prices for all advertising less than $100 in amount.

TRAVELLING AGENTS.

The following gentlemen, who are authorized Agents for the NEW ENGLAND FARMER, will canvass for subscribers and collections in the following Counties in New England:—

G. W. NYE, ... ESSEX CO., MASS.
FREEMAN ROBBINS, . . . WASHINGTON, VT.
F. W. CHEEVER, ... CALEDONIA CO., VT.
A. W. WINGATE, ... SOMERSET, PISCATAQUIS and PENOBSCOT COS., ME.
LESTER BARNES, ... BRISTOL CO., MS.
D. G. STEVENS, ...

Subscribers are requested to forward their subscriptions without waiting for the Agent to call. The date on their label will always show how far they have paid up.

Farmers' Directory.

The Business Houses whose cards appear in this column are among the best and most reliable in the city.

NEW ENGLAND MORTGAGE AND INVESTMENT COMPANY.
DIVIDENDS APRIL AND OCTOBER.
Four per cent. semi-annual dividend declared and payable October 1,
AT ROOM 29, ROGERS' BUILDING,
BOSTON, Mass.
N. B.—A few shares of this desirable stock for sale at par. SETH E. BROWN, C. D. MILES.

ESTABLISHED 1856.
WM. F. BROOKS & CO.
Commission Merchants, and Wholesale Dealers in
FLOUR AND COUNTRY PRODUCE,
Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Beans, Pork, Lard, Poultry, Dried Apples, &c.
Country Consignments Solicited.
28 Blackstone St., under New England House.
WM. F. BROOKS. BOSTON. CHAS. O. BROOKS.

FURNITURE.
Established in 1836.
W. P. B. BROOKS,
DEALER IN
FURNITURE, CARPETINGS,
Stoves, Feathers, Mattresses, Clocks, &c.
151 HANOVER STREET,
14 Blackstone St. BOSTON. 9 Marshall St.

INSURANCE.
Quincy Mutual Fire Insurance Co.
CASH FUND, JANUARY 1, 1883, $482,451.87
Surplus over Re-Insurance, ... $271,818.40
Gain in Cash Fund the past year, ... 22,368.97
Gain in Cash Surplus the past year, ... 18,309.66
AND EVERY LOSS PAID IN FULL.
Amount at risk, $6,117,577 00.
Total Liabilities, $190,632.57
Dividends paid on every Expiring Policy: 50 per cent. on 5 years, 30 per cent. on 3 years, and 20 per cent. on all others.
ISRAEL W. MUNROE, Pres't and Treas.
CHAS. A. HOWLAND, Sec'y. 17

General Intelligence.

PERSONAL.

At the recent rose show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in this city, a most creditable display was made by Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry of Rochester, who were represented by Mr. Henry B. Ellwanger, the second son of the senior member of the firm. His acquaintance was made by many during this visit, who found him a modest and affable gentleman, and they will hear with regret of his recent death. He was taken sick after his return from Boston, and died at the age of 32. Mr. Ellwanger was known in this country and abroad as a rosarian of rare culture, and his many published contributions to floral literature were highly prized.

Mrs. Drake of Huron, D. T., is a successful farmer. A year ago she purchased eight hundred acres of land and is raising enormous crops of wheat, oats and flax. The prices are good, and she has every advantage.

The Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, the distinguished jurist and statesman, died on Sunday at his home in York, Pa., after an illness of only a few days. He was in his seventy-third year, having been born January 10th, 1810. He was a lawyer by profession, and his eminent legal abilities were early recognized by the people of his native State, who elected him Circuit Judge, when he was only about thirty years old, and ten years after made him Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State. With the opening of the administration of President Buchanan, Mr. Black resigned his position on the bench to become Attorney General of the United States. When Mr. Cass resigned his position as Secretary of State, a few weeks before the close of Buchanan's term, Mr. Black, who was a strong Union man, and in favor of prompt and stern measures against the secessionists, took the portfolio of Secretary of State, being succeeded in the Attorney General's office by Edwin M. Stanton, and it was largely due to the exertions of these two gentlemen, and of General Dix, in the Cabinet, that a disgraceful surrender was not made at the very outset. One of the last of Mr. Buchanan's official acts was to nominate Mr. Black to the vacancy then existing on the bench of the United States Supreme Court, but the Senate refused to confirm the nomination, and the Judge retired from official life, and went back to his law practice, to which he has ever since confined himself, and in which he has gained a reputation as one of the great lawyers of the century.

William Wirt Sikes, United States Consul at Cardiff, England, died there on Saturday. He has been for many years a popular and very versatile contributor to many of the leading American magazines, and at the time of his death was engaged in the composition of a work on the popular legends and folk lore of Wales.

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA IN CONNECTICUT.—Dr. E. F. Thayer, of the United States Cattle Commission, reports to the Treasury Department the particulars of an outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia in the town of Salem, Ct., which arose from the purchase in April last, by Mr. H. E. Williams of that place, of a cow in Jersey City, N. J. Early in July a disease appeared among the cattle owned by Mr. Williams, three of which were killed by the owner. The lungs were examined by Professor Lautaret of the American Veterinary College and by Dr. Rice, veterinary surgeon, of Hartford, Conn., who pronounced the disease to be lung-plague. By request of the State Cattle Commissioners the Dr. visited the farm of Mr. Williams on Tuesday the 14th instant. Of the remaining animals of the herd three are affected with the lung disease in the chronic form, but have not fully passed through the acute stage of the disease. An adjacent farm is owned by Captain Seamen, who has a large herd of cattle, one of which has died. Both herds are in quarantine by order of the State Commissioners, who appreciate the importance of preventing the spread of the disease, and having full authority will doubtless prevent its further extension. The Treasury department feels no apprehension as to the spread of the disease beyond its present locality. Whether the cow brought from Jersey City came from a herd recently imported is not known at the Treasury department. Salem, Conn., is in the southern part of that State, about 20 miles from Long Island Sound.

How to mitigate the toll of wash day during these hot summer months is worth knowing; we are assured that James Pyle's Pearline does it effectually, without the slightest danger to the finest fabrics.

AMONG the Catskill Mountain peaks there are twenty which are more than 3000 feet high, while four reach the following altitudes: Peakamoose, 4040; Black Dome, 4004; Hunter, 4052; Slide, 4220.

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS. 1883.

We give below our list of Agricultural Fairs to be held during the coming autumn, as far as we have yet been informed. We desire to include in this list every agricultural or horticultural exhibition in New England, however local it may be, and we would respectfully request our friends, particularly the officers of County and Village Societies, Farmers' Clubs, and all similar associations which intend to hold an exhibition this fall, to notify us of the date and place of such exhibitions as soon as the same are decided upon.

State, Provincial, &c.

American Institute,	New York,	Oct. 3–Nov. 30
American Pomological Society,	Philadelphia, Pa.	Sept. 12–14
Foreign Exhibition,	Boston,	Sept. 3–30
Massachusetts Hort.,	Boston,	Sept. 19–22
Do.	do.	Nov. 8–9
Maine,	Lewiston,	Sept. 18–21
N. E. Manufacturers' & Mechanics' Institute,	Boston,	Sept. 5–30
New England,	Manchester, N. H.	Sept. 4–7
New Hampshire,	Manchester,	Sept. 4–7
Vermont,	Burlington,	Sept. 10–14
Rhode Island,	Providence,	Sept. 25–28
Connecticut,	Meriden,	Sept. 18–21
New York,	Rochester,	Sept. 10–14
Canada, Dominion,	St. John, N. B.	Oct. 2–5
Ontario,	Guelph,	Sept. 24–29
Nova Scotia,	Truro,	Sept. 25–30

County and Local.

MAINE.

Aroostook,	Houlton,	Sept. 28, 29
Cumberland Co.,	Portland,	Sept. 11–14
Cumberland Farm. Club,	Cumberland,	Sept. 26, 27
Franklin,	Farmington,	Oct. 1
Kennebec,	Readfield Cor.,	Oct. 2–4
Knox, North,	Hope,	Oct. 9–11
Lincoln,	Damariscotta,	Oct. 2–4
Oxford Valley,	Cornish,	Sept 25–27
Oxford,	Norway,	Oct. 2–4
Oxford, West,	Fryeburg,	Oct. 9–11
Penobscot, North,	Lincoln,	Oct. 3, 4
Penobscot, West,	Exeter,	Sept. 25, 26
Piscataquis, East,	Milo,	Sept. 26, 27
Piscataquis,	Foxcroft,	Oct. 3–5
Sagadahoc,	Topsham,	Oct. 9–11
Somerset Central,	Skowhegan,	Oct. 2–4
Somerset, East,	Hartland,	Sept. 11, 12
Washington, West,	Jonesboro',	Sept. 26, 27
York,	Biddeford,	Oct. 10–12

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Belknap Co.,	Laconia,	Sept. 18–20
Bradford & Newbury,	Bradford,	Sept. 20, 21
Coos and Essex,	Colebrook,	Sept. 26, 27
Grafton Co.,	Plymouth,	Sept. 25–27
Oak Park Ass'n,	Greenfield,	Sept. 18, 19

VERMONT.

Addison Co.,	Middlebury,	Sept. 3–5
Caledonia Co.,	St. Johnsbury,	Sept. 18–20
Champlain Valley,	Burlington,	Sept. 10–14
Chester,	Chester,	Sept. 11, 12
Dog River Valley,	Northfield,	Sept. 25–27
Franklin Co.,	Sheldon,	Aug. 29–31
Lamoille,	Morristown,	Sept. 25–27
Mad River Valley,	Waitsfield,	Sept. 18, 19
Orange Co.,	Bradford,	Sept. 25–27
Patron's Ag'l Society,	Proctorsville,	Sept. 26
Pompanoosuc Valley,	Post Mills,	Sept. 18–20
Poultney,	Poultney,	Sept. 18–20
Rutland Co.,	Rutland,	Sept. 5–7
Union Exhib'n Soc'y,	St. Albans,	Sept. 5–7
White River,	Bethel,	Sept. 18–20
Windham Co.,	Fayetteville,	Sept. 19, 20
World's,	Tunbridge,	Oct. 2–4

MASSACHUSETTS.

Amesbury & Salisbury,	Newburyport,	Oct. 2, 3
Attleboro' Farmers and Mechanics,	Attleboro',	Oct. 2–4
Barnstable,	Barnstable,	Sept. 25, 26
Berkshire,	Pittsfield,	Sept. 25–28
Bristol,	Taunton,	Sept. 25–27
Brockton,	Brockton,	Oct. 3–5
Deerfield Valley,	Charlemont,	Sept. 20, 21
Essex,	Salem,	Sept. 25, 26
Franklin,	Greenfield,	Sept. 27, 28
Grafton Farm. Club,	Grafton,	Sept. 13
Hampden,	Chicopee,	Sept. 25–27
Hampden East,	Palmer,	Sept. 18, 19
Hampshire,	Amherst,	Sept. 20, 21
Hampshire, Franklin, &c.,	Northampton,	Oct. 2–5
Highland,	Middlefield,	Sept. 13, 14
Hingham,	Hingham,	Sept. 25, 26
Housatonic Valley,	North Adams,	Sept. 18, 19
Housatonic,	Gt. Barrington,	Sept. 26–28
Lancaster Farm. Club,	Lancaster	Sept. 26
Marshfield,	Marshfield,	Sept. 12–14
Martha's Vineyard,	West Tisbury,	Oct. 2, 3
Middlesex,	Concord,	Sept. 25–27
Middlesex, North,	Lowell,	Sept. 25, 26
Middlesex, South,	Framingham,	Sept. 18, 19
Nantucket,	Nantucket,	Sept. 5, 6
North Brookfield Farmers Club,	North Brookfield,	Sept. 11
Oakham Farm. Club,	Oakham,	Sept. 18
Plymouth,	Bridgewater,	Sept. 19–21
Union,	Blandford,	Sept. 19–21
Westminster Farm. Club,	Westminster,	Sept. 21
Worcester,	Worcester,	Sept. 20, 21
Worcester, North,	Fitchburg,	Sept. 25, 26
Worcester, Northwest,	Athol,	Oct. 2, 3
Worcester, South,	Southbridge,	Sept. 13, 14
Worcester, West,	Barre,	Sept. 26, 27
Westboro Ag'l Soc'y,	Westboro,	Sept. 27

RHODE ISLAND.

Washington,	West Kingston,	Sept. 18–20
Woonsocket,	Woonsocket,	Sept. 18–20

CONNECTICUT.

Chester,	Chester,	Sept. 26
Clinton,	Clinton,	Oct. 3
Danbury,	Danbury,	Oct. 1–6
Fairfield Co.,	Norwalk,	Sept. 11, 12
Farmington Valley,	Cherry Park,	Sept. 25, 26
Guilford,	Guilford,	Sept. 25
Killingworth,	Killingworth,	Sept. 27
Milford and Orange,	Milford,	Sept. 18, 19
New London Co.,	Norwich,	Sept. 25–27
New Milford,	New Milford,	Sept. 27–29
Simsbury,	Simsbury,	Oct. 3, 4
Southington,	Southington,	Oct. 9–11
Tolland Co., East,	Stafford Springs,	Oct. 10, 11
Union (Monroe, &c.),	Huntington,	Sept. 19–21
Watertown,	Watertown,	Sept. 25–27
Westbrook,	Westbrook,	Oct. 10
Willimantic Far. Club,	Willimantic,	Oct. 2–4
Windham Co.,	Brooklyn,	Sept. 18–20
Woodbridge and Bethany,	Woodbridge,	Sept. 3, 4
Woodbury,	Woodbury,	Sept. 12, 13
Woodstock,	Woodstock,	Sept. 25–27

MANY bodily ills result from habitual constipation, and a fine constitution may be broken and ruined by simple neglect. There is no medicine equal to Ayer's Pills to correct the evil, and restore the organs to natural, healthy, and regular action.

PAUPERISM continues to decrease in England, notwithstanding the population is growing. For the month of June the decrease was one per cent., or between 7000 and 8000. There are, however, still nearly 700,000 paupers on the hands of the public.

"I HAD a horse hopelessly lame with *ringbone*," says S. F. Robinson, 150 Blackstone St., Waltham, Mass., "Ellis's Spavin Cure has cured him."

THE changes produced in plants during successive generations are now so great that the original prototypes of most of our favorite species under cultivation are either unknown or in doubt.

THIRTEEN YEARS' DYSPEPSIA.—"I suffered with dyspepsia for 13 years," writes John Albright, Esq., of Columbus, Ohio. "*Samaritan Nervine* cured me." As it always cures such disorders. At druggists.

THE Dutch are very angry because several fine pictures have been sold out of private collections in Holland to foreign buyers, and an association has been formed at Amsterdam to purchase for the public galleries of the country all desirable drawings or pictures of the old native school that may be offered for sale.

IT's hard to believe Miss Whittier was cured of such terrible sores by Hood's Sarsaparilla, but reliable people prove it.

NO less than 160 persons have been killed by railway accidents in the State of New York during the last six months, yet it is safer to travel by rail than by private conveyance or stage coach. The ratio of accidents is less.

Hop Plasters are clean, sweet and pleasant to use. Fresh Hops combined with Balsams and Gums. More powerful than any other porous plasters. 25 cts.

THE German carp sent to Florida by the Fish Commission are frightened by the alligators and eaten by the turtles, and consequently do not prosper.

HARDLY a newspaper printed but speaks of a sudden death by heart disease. Dr. Graves' Heart Regulator would have cured it; strong assertion, but many have said they were taken from the grave by it. $1 per bottle at druggists.

A GERMAN commercial colony is being established on the West Coast of South Africa.

A PRUSSIAN law requires peddlers to "behave politely, clean their boots on entering a house and bow when offering wares."

"VEGETINE," says a Boston physician, "has no equal as a blood purifier. Hearing of its many wonderful cures, after all other remedies had failed, I visited the laboratory and convinced myself of its genuine merit. It is prepared from barks, roots and herbs, each of which is highly effective, and they are compounded in such a manner as to produce astonishing results."

THE less competent of the striking telegraphers are, as a rule, getting the cold shoulder from their former employers; the others are finding work again.

CONSUMPTION CURED.—An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, *149 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.*

AN IMMIGRATION EXPERIMENT.

The rapid development of the horticultural and viticultural interests of California have created a necessity for a large amount of skilled labor, says the San Francisco *Alta*, and the question has become an important one, where this labor is to be found. Already the vineyardists and farmers are complaining that they are compelled to pay higher rates of wages than they can afford, and that some of their best hands desert them when most needed, to work in the grain-fields. Hence the idea of bringing experienced vine-dressers and raisin makers from Europe, or at least inducing such to come, has been often suggested, but the suggestions have not taken practical form yet. An exception is to be made, however, in the case of some enterprising vineyardists in Fresno, who authorised the European agent of the California Immigration Society to supply them with 19 experienced vintners. The inducement offered was a year's steady employment at good wages. The laborers were left to pay their own fares to this country, and for this reason it has been harder to get the persons desired than if their transportation expenses had been advanced. Nevertheless, the agent writes from Antwerp that he will be able to furnish the number asked for, and that some will arrive by the middle of August and the remainder a month later. He takes the view of the matter that might be expected—that this experimental importation is of great importance; that it will do more than anything else could to advertise California in the districts from which the vintners come; that if they are satisfied and well treated they will inform their friends at home of the advantages of immigration to California, and make it easier to find laborers to fill future orders. As the agent remarks, "the letters they will write home will tell better than 20,000 pamphlets distributed free." The success of this experiment is greatly to be desired.

CATTLE CONTAGION.

Hon. H. F. French, acting Secretary of the Treasury, has addressed a letter to the Secretary of State in regard to the foot and mouth disease in cattle, of which the following is a copy:—

I have the honor to enclose herewith a newspaper slip containing a telegraphic despatch from London, England, in which it is alleged that Mr. Dodson, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, stated, on the 17th inst., in the House of Commons, that it was an undoubted fact that the foot and mouth disease in cattle had been carried from England to America, and that the American quarantine system in relation to cattle diseases gave no security against the conveyance of disease by men attached to quarantine stations and by articles taken out of the quarantine yards, and that the system took into consideration only the animals themselves. I deem it due to American interests to state that if the honorable gentleman named made the remarks attributed to him it must have been done without a knowledge of all the facts in the case, and that in some respects such remarks are calculated to mislead the public mind on the subject. Attention is called to the enclosed report of the treasury cattle commission, dated the 21st ult., in regard to the foot and mouth disease among the cattle of the United States. While it is admitted that this disease did exist in herds of cattle imported from Great Britain, the commission gives an emphatic denial to the present existence of the disease among the cattle of the United States. This statement is considered important, because it might be inferred from the remarks of Mr. Dodson, as quoted, that the disease which had thus been imported from Great Britain had not been eradicated. Ample quarantine stations exist in the district of Boston, Mass,, and Portland, Me., and as no contagious or infectious diseases among the cattle of these States exist, the possibility of these diseases being communicated to our cattle by cattle arriving at these ports (which are the only ports on the New England frontier where cattle are allowed to be quarantined) is quite remote. I call special attention to the stringent regulations governing the quarantine of cattle, herewith enclosed, which go far beyond the scope contemplated in the remarks attributed to Mr. Dodson. I think if these regulations are properly carried out, as I assume they will be, they will prove sufficient to guard against the introduction of contagious diseases by the importation of foreign cattle at the ports where quarantine is established. I have the honor to request that a copy of this letter and of its enclosures be sent to the British minister at this capital for the information of his government.

HOW WESTERN CITIES ARE CREATED.—Five weeks ago, says a correspondent of the St. Louis *Globe Democrat*, not a house that could have been intended for business or a city residence was to be seen on the present town site of Walnut City, Mo. There were only three farm houses in the 480 acres included in the town's area. The cultivated fields were in corn, and the balance was used for pasture land. Today there are fifty-five business houses, and about fifty residences built and in course of construction. The St. Louis, Fort Scott & Chicago Railroad, has been graded from Hume, on the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Gulf Railroad, to the place, and will be extended further. A brick bank building is in course of erection, and a banking association, with a capital of $25,000, has been organized. Excavations have been commenced for water works. The first lot in the town was sold July 5th, and the sales to date aggregate over $100,000. One newspaper is published, and another will be started in September. There is an abundance of coal in the best quality, from three feet to forty inches thick.

KENTUCKY DRIED APPLES.

If there is one thing more than another that Pulaski county is, or should be noted for, it is her immense production of dried apples, writes a correspondent of the *Louisville Commercial*. In years when the apple crop is good, the amount shipped from this place is something enormous, measured by the dozens of carloads in fact. As the apple crop this year is very good, Pulaski county can be depended on to do her share towards inflating—well, if not the currency, at least the stomachs of the country. There are no notably large orchards in the county, the most extensive containing only 400 or 500 trees. It is rather singular too that this should be the case, as no better fruit-producing county can be found in America than many parts of Pulaski county. The large quantities shipped from this place are the united production of a great many persons. Nearly every farmer in the county has more or less of an orchard, and as soon as the apples are fit for the purpose (sometimes sooner, perhaps,) the female portion of the household commence converting them into the well-known "suits."

Ordinarily they are simply peeled and cored and laid out in the sun, either on boards or a convenient roof, and old Sol does the rest of the work. There are a few evaporators in the county, however. It is only a question of time when they will, to a great extent, supplant the old method of drying the fruit in the sun. The evaporated article always commands a ready sale at several times the price of ordinary fruit, and, in addition, no risk is run of having it spoiled by rain like that which lies out on roofs and boards. The evaporated fruit is much the nices and most wholesome article of food, and, aside from the first cost of an evaporator and the little fuel required to run it, the cost of production is the same as the sun-dried article, the difference of from 100 to 300 per cent in the value of the two is no small item in its favor.

During their season dried apples form an important part of the currency of the county. The most of the merchants in Somerset and all the county store-keepers deal in them, and when the farmer and any of his family need any article for personal or household use, they are sure of getting it if they have the requisite number of pounds of dried apples. They are paid by the merchants altogether in trade, no one as yet having done a cash business in them. No doubt whoever would do so would do a land-office business, but whether it would be a paying one or not is an open question. The ruling price is four cents per pound, or $1.04 per bushel of twenty-six pounds, though sometimes the price has gone a little below that, and at other time above it. Last year they brought four cents, while the year before they sold at from four to six cents, the average price paid being about five cents.

Last year the apple crop was light, consequently the shipments of the dried article were not nearly so large as usual. Only about 300,000 pounds were shipped from here. The year previous the crop was unusually good, and there was also a good peach crop, and the shipments of dried apples and peaches from this point aggregated the enormous amount of nearly 1,300,000 pounds, or over sixty carloads. Of this amount probably not more than one-fourth or one-fifth were peaches. The average price paid was five cents per pound, so the revenue of the county from this source alone was over $60,000. It must be taken into consideration, too, that there are numerous small stores scattered throughout the county that bought up and shipped a great deal of fruit, though just how much there is no means of knowing.

SMALL FARMS IN CALIFORNIA.

More than half of the agricultural land of the State has been brought under cultivation by men of small means, says the San Francisco *Alta*. In 1880 there were 10,081 farms containing less than 100 acres, and 30,295 containing less than 500 acres. Of farms containing more than 500 acres there were but little over 5000. These figures do not indicate that all the money is made on large farms. The *Californian* says: "Of the small farmers who settled the delta of the Kern river at an early day—poor men, we mean—only one now remains." If this is true it merely shows that Kern is not a good county for poor settlers to go to, as compared with others. There are portions of Sacramento and San Jaoquin valleys where the poor settlers of twenty-five years ago, still hold the land, and have grown wealthy. "No man can create a small farm here," the *Californian* continues, "of, say, 160 acres, or in any other part of the State, where there is unimproved land, without a considerable amount of money. In most cases we would say it would be unsafe to attempt it with a capital of less than $5000 remaining after the land was acquired, and even in that case the pioneer must possess exceptional energy and capacity." If this were true, it would be useless to hope that the government land remaining in the State would be acquired by settlers, for not one in fifty possesses the amount of capital mentioned by the *Californian*.

Yet thousands of acres of these lands—in the foothills and more distant counties—are yearly taken up by immigrants from other States and by old residents, and gradually transformed into valuable farms. It is true this land cannot be broken up as easily as Illinois prairie land, and a big crop of wheat raised on the whole quarter section the year after the settler arrives, but a man who is willing to adapt himself to his surroundings, and use his land and labor to the best advantage, is sure to get along. On the other hand, some of the most melancholy wrecks are the men who started with capital and broke up at "big farming" in the San Joaquin valley and elsewhere. It may be considered a general rule in the wheat-growing districts of the State, that the larger the ranch the heavier the mortgage it is carrying.

A good example of agricultural progress is found in Napa county. In 1880 the number of farms in Napa, as returned by the census-takers, was 897, while by the report of the county assessors, just rendered, there are now 1773. This is an increase of very nearly 100 per cent, in three years. How this subdivision of the land affected its value, may be seen at glance by the following figures: Of the land which is included in tracts of less than 10 acres, the average assessed value is $84.81 per acre; over 10 acres and under 40, $48.61 per acre; over 40 and under 60, $35.95; over 60 and under 100, $25.84; over 100 and under 160, $11.89; over 160 and under 240, $14.44; over 240 and under 320, $9.48. Land which is sub-divided into small tracts is generally planted in orchards and vineyards, and the great resulting increase in value goes to swell the aggregrate wealth and prosperity of the State.

CORN CANNING IN MAINE.—The present season has been a very successful one for raising sweet corn for canning purposes. Yearly this industry increases in Maine, both in the amount canned and the variety thus preserved for future consumption. At present there are factories in that State not only for canning corn, but also succotash, pumpkins, squash, tomatoes, apples, raspberries, and other fruit, mackerel, lobsters and sardines. This industry started in 1863 with the canning of corn, and has developed so that there are now but few towns in the State that do not one way or another derive some benefit from it. Last year about 12,000,000 cans of sweet corn were put up, and the factories in several localities would have put up a third more if the crop had not been injured by the drought. Corn raised for canning purposes pays from $40 to over $100 per acre, and the amount of money distributed among the farmers last year was about $360,000. Unless some unforseen accident befalls the present crop a larger amount of money will be distributed than any previous year. From 20 to 30 cents is paid for apples a bushel, 40 cents for tomatoes, 75 cents for pears, $5 per ton for pumpkins and $10 for squashes. The canning of mackerel and lobsters is making heavy inroads on those food supplies. Probably one half the mackerel caught for canning factories are thrown away on account of being too small, and a wholesale destruction of this toothsome fish is going on daily.—*Journal.*

DEPARTURE OF THE MARTENS.—The glossy plumaged, swift flying martens took their departure from local haunts on Saturday night, and not one of those twittering residents of the bird houses is now to be found within our borders. Last year they departed three days later. Whether coming or going they maintain a marked regularity, seldom varying the date of their departure or arrival more than a week. Those who provide homes for these birds find much pleasure in studying their habits. One gentleman who has carefully watched them for years assures us that bird inspectors arrive some ten days in advance of the flock, about the 10th of April in each year, and after examining his premises, in a day depart, always flying in a northeasterly direction. The birds next appear en masse and immediately take up their quarters. Before the birds will accept a house, he says, railings have to be built to secure the young against the danger of falling out. They will not occupy a house that endangers the lives of their young, and in this show better judgment than many human beings. In a wild state they build in trees like the bluebird.—*Norwich Bulletin.*

☞ The Lincoln House at Richmond, Me., was discovered in flames at three o'clock Monday morning, and, with the stable attached, was totally destroyed. The guests and other inmates narrowly escaped. Mr. Robinson was severely burned. Three horses and three pigs in the stable were burned. The other horses and most of the carriages were saved. Nearly all the furniture and other property were destroyed.

The World Abroad.

SUMMARY OF LATEST FOREIGN DISPATCHES.

Great Britain.

The Irish tramways bill, providing for a government guarantee of £1,000,000 for opening up the western districts of Ireland by light steam tramways, has passed to a third reading in the House of Commons, after a very bitter and protracted debate. One clause of the bill devotes £50,000 to assisting emigration.

The case of Mr. Shaw, the British minister in Madagascar, now in French custody, occasioned earnest debate in the house of commons Tuesday, and apparently more is to follow. Mr. Gladstone tried to dissuade the members from discussing the matter, as talk might impair the good feeling between England and France, and he promised to make further inquiries.

In Parliament the other day, the chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster stated that it was an undoubted fact that the foot and mouth disease had been carried from England to America. He said that the Canadian cattle now suffering with the disease at Bristol, had been in contact at Liverpool with infected animals which came from Ireland. He pointed out, however, that the American quarantine system in relation to diseases gave no security against the conveyance of disease by men attached to the quarantine stations, and by articles taken out of the quarantine yards. The system, he said, only took into consideration the animals themselves.

The agricultural holdings bill has passed the House of Lords.

Twelve coal miners were instantly killed in a mine at Redruth, Cornwall, England, last Wednesday, by the breaking of a hoisting rope.

Eight thousand weavers are on a strike in the Ashton-under-Lyne district, England.

There was serious rioting between Orangemen and Catholics at Coatbridge, Scotland, on Saturday and Monday. The police, however, finally succeeded in dispersing the mob, and arrested fifty of the rioters.

The Press Association has been requested to state that the newspaper assertion that Mr. Gladstone was a subscriber to the Confederate cotton loan is untrue.

It is intended to organize a company for the purpose of raising a fund to supplement the government grant for migration in Ireland. A special appeal for subscriptions to the fund will be made to the Irish in America, and an Irish bishop will go to the United States to urge subscriptions.

France.

Second ballots were had in France on Sunday for members of the councils-general, resulting in a further republican gain of 16 seats.

The government of France and the authorities at the Vatican have decided to issue a joint statement, with the object of removing the misunderstanding which is likely to arrive in consequence of the non-publication of the letters which have recently passed between President Grevy and the Pope.

An official despatch from Haiphong announces that the French fleet has sailed from that place to reconnoitre the Cochin-China coast. M. Tricou, the French embassador to China, has left Pekin, as he feared that he would be expelled from that city as soon as the French troops in Annam began to bombard Hue, an event which will certainly happen unless Annam consents to the terms proposed by France.

In the Madagascar matter, France will insist upon a French protectorate over northwest Madagascar, the abolition of the law debating to tenure of the land by Europeans and the payment to the French of 1,000,000 francs indemnity.

Germany.

The Emperor William has contributed 50,000 marks for the relief of the sufferers on the Island of Ischia.

The second son of Prince William of Prussia was christened at Potsdam, on Sunday, with imposing ceremonies. All the members of the imperial family, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Albany, and the Duke of Roumania were among the guests present.

The Post's Berlin correspondent says that threats that the government of the United States would impose a retaliatory tariff have made an impression on the German government. The statement of the correspondent presumably refers to the pork question.

General Items.

Quiet having been restored throughout Spain, the various bodies of gendarmerie engaged in quelling the recent uprising have returned to their former stations. The provincial officers are actively engaged in inquiring into the cause of the rebellion. The trouble is ascribed to the operations of the Free Masons.

It is reported that the Spanish cabinet will make overtures to Germany for support against the attitude of France toward Spain.

Italy's fleet will be recalled from the waters of Morocco, a settlement of the Italian claims having been made.

There are alarming signs of an earthquake in Serrara on the island of Ischia. The springs are drying up and smoke is issuing from fissures in the ground. The minister of public works has issued an order for the erection of huts for the accomodation of the people in case they should be compelled to vacate their houses.

The Jewish quarters at Prague, Austria, were attacked by a mob on Wednesday, but the rioters were dispersed before any serious harm had been done.

Three villages were set on fire last week by lightning in Switzerland.

Count Tolstoi, the Russian minister of the interior, has ordered the enforcement of the decree forbidding Jewish manufacturers from employing Christian workman.

Twenty two young men, who were students in the university at St. Petersburg, and who were connected with a nihilist journal, have been sent to Siberia.

A two days' battle has been fought in South Africa between the adherents of King Cetewayo and Usibepu, in which the latter are said to have been defeated.

Cetewayo has made a request of Queen Victoria that she will have a full inquiry into the treatment he has received.

The ravages of cholera in Egypt are decreasing.

Two hundred persons have died from cholera at Bombay during the last two weeks.

A civil war is feared in the United States of Colombia.

STARTLING DEBILITY,

both Nervous and General, Lack of Self-confidence and Will Power, Impaired Memory, Despondency, Weak Back, and kindred affections, are common results of youthful follies and pernicious practices, pursued in solitude. Means of unfailing and perfect cure are suggested in large illustrated treatise, sent for three letter postage stamps. Address WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Buffalo, N. Y.

Business Notices.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Meets the wants of those who need a medicine to build them up, give an appetite, purify the blood, and oil up the machinery of their bodies. No article takes hold of the system and hits the spot like Hood's Sarsaparilla. It works like magic, reaching every part of the human body through the blood, giving to all renewed life and energy. $1.00 a bottle; six for $5.00. Sold by druggists. Made by C. I. HOOD & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Marriages and Deaths.

MARRIED.

In Cambridgeport, Aug. 14, by Rev. L. W. Smith, R. Nason Bullard of Sherborn to Charlotte E. F. Eaton of Cambridgeport.

In Charlestown, Aug. 15, by Rev. T. W. Perrin, Herbert Smith to Mary S. Bean.

In Worcester, Aug. 7, by Rev. H. Lockhart, Mr. Arthur H. Ford to Mrs. Ruth Worcester of Lynn.

In Braintree, Aug. 14, by Rev. George W. Durell, Hon. Edward Avery to Margaret Woodside Ogden.

In Southboro, Aug. 15, by Rev. Waldo Burnett, William E. Peck to Harriet Jones.

In Byfield, Aug. 13, by Rev. George L. Gleason, Mr. Joseph N. Dummer of Rowley to Miss Sarah V. Wheelwright of Newbury.

In Madison, N. H., Aug. 7, by Rev. W. H. Tarlton, George F. Frost of Madison, N. H., to Gennie A. Story of Wakefield, Mass.

DIED.

In this city, Aug. 19, Luke Vila, 83 yrs. 3 mos. 17 dys.

In Charlestown, Aug. 16, Harriet A. L., relict of William Johnson of Quincy, 86 yrs.

In Roxbury, Aug. 16, Mrs. Lurania H. Smith, 72 yrs.

In East Cambridge, Aug. 19, Mrs. H. A. Clark, relict of the late William Clark of Lee, Mass., 72 yrs. 4 mos.

In Kingston, Aug. 17, Sophia H., wife of Dr. H. N. Jones and daughter of the late Judge Martin of Manchester N. H.

In Merrimac, Mass., Aug. 17, Patten Sargent, 90 yrs. 1 day.

In Medford, Aug. 13, Simeon Dow, 81 yrs. 11 mos.

In Medford, Aug. 7, Mrs. Catherine L. Gill, widow of the late Thomas Gill, aged 81 yrs. 2 mos.

In Malden, Aug. 13, Mrs. Harriet B. Fletcher, 75 yrs. 11 mos.

In West Newbury, Aug. 16, Rev. Samuel Moody Emery, D. D., in the 68th year of his age.

In Lexington, Aug. 15, Mrs. Margaret B. Bayley widow of Richard W. Bayley, 88 yrs.

In Somerville, Aug. 15, Daniel W. Putney, 77 yrs. 4 mos.

In East Stoughton, Aug. 14, Mrs. Margaret Morgan, 84 yrs.

In Newburyport, Aug. 12, Betsey C.

Poetry.

For the New England Farmer.

FROM MY WINDOW.

BY H. J. L.

Could you but see, as I, at eventide,
The clear blue waters of this tranquil bay,
From shore to islands stretching far and wide,
All roseate with the hues of dying day,
And feel the silence that so calmly reigns,
Your wordless joy would dissipate all pains.

Silence unbroken, save by wing of bird,
Or the soft lapping of the slothful wave,
Or the hushed breeze through rustling cedars heard,
Or some faint murmur as from ocean cave;
Silence, save busy voices memory-born,
Pensive as eve, or cheerful as the morn.

Sitting at my lone casement thus at eve,
Drinking o'erflowing draughts from beauty's spring,
I watch the fading sunbeams as they weave
New loveliness on earth, sky, sea to fling;
And, as the night draws near, the sailor's star
Rises o'er boundless fields of blue afar.

There is a soothing influence in the sea
Seen thus in silence 'neath the deepening night;
Here checked by the green land, there wide and free,
Stretching away beyond our longing sight,
That soft descends through all the unsounded deeps
Where silent worship its pure altar keeps.

The Story Teller.

From Harper's Bazar.

A COINCIDENCE.

BY HARRIET PRESCOTT SPOFFORD.

After all, the world is narrow, so narrow, indeed, that it is not necessary to escape a single individual with whom we have once woven a web of any affiliation, be it ever so slight and gossamer. Yet, narrow as the world is, it is crowded with those strange things coming under no law, affecting us as bordering upon the supernatural, and called coincidences.

Perhaps it was no coincidence at all, however; but it called up old scenes in such a manner as to suggest new ones, and it causes me to be sure that I now feel no surprise, if, on a reorganization of the service according to advancing ideas, I should see Miss Burne, a weigher and gauger yet, and very strict in the performance of her duty.

I was only a child, to be sure, but Miss Burne took my little fancy amazingly; and yet she had plainly endeavored to take nobody's fancy. But if her black hair was combed straightly from her face, and closely coiled and braided away, it did not hinder me from conjecturing what its length and luxuriance would be if it were loose, and seen without the little capote which she invariably wore. And if she kept her white lids downcast, that you might not see too vividly the great black eyes beneath, it only betrayed the long, black lashes resting on that cheek whose soft velvet was the velvet of the rose, in my recollection, let the Captain's wife say what she would about the work of an artist.

There was nothing she could do, however, to hide her mouth, and that you would hardly fail to remember, somewhat sunken as it was, with the scarlet lines of its thin lips, and with the corner of one of the pearly front teeth broken away, and all a little accented by a suspicion of downy shadow above. Still, if she had worn a mask, she could hardly have veiled to more purpose than she did already this singular face of hers, neither beautiful nor plain, and yet strangely fascinating one always to look again.

When you had looked again, it may be said you discovered, or fancied that you did, a singular mark on the face. Some fall, some accident, cut of knife or clip of bullet, something, at any rate, had struck off a tiny atom of the right nostril, and that without injuring the face at all, and simply giving a more haughty and high-bred air to that side of the face than the other had. For the rest, she was tall, but rather muscular than graceful; her dress was a black stuff of some sort, but its exceedingly simple cut, half hidden under the sacque to which the capote belonged, allowed you only to see the rather high and square outline that was not so popular then as it has since become. There was nothing, in fact, about her, to catch the eye, except a quaint ring on the little finger, made of five fine wires of red gold, on each of which a tiny diamond was strung, till it looked like a measure of some strange music, I remember thinking. The ring was too small for the finger, which had grown since it was put on, and I have no doubt that if it could easily have been taken off without a file, it would not have been worn. It was rather discordant, certainly, with the large, brown, nervous hand, accustomed to climbing and boating, as all those coast girls were.

Child as I was, I saw that Miss Burne shrank from observation, joining in no conversation, scarcely appearing, except at table, till after dark, and then, if not walking the deck with Mr. Brossier, absorbed apparently in her book; and the more she shrank away, why, the more it fastened my wondering attention.

There was not much else to fasten the attention, on that tiresome voyage in a packet-ship, running between Boston and points along the easterly coast of Maine. I sat on the deck with my toys, and saw the placid sea rising round me in a ring of blue, as though I were the centre of a great sapphire; or I let my eye run up the length of the white sail into the sky, till I seemed to be a part of the clouds; once in a while a whale spouted in the distance, once in a while a school of porpoises gambolled in our way, and sometimes we spoke a passing sail. The Captain had his family on board, and was in no hurry to reach his destination. Occasionally we came to anchor in the bay of some of the coast towns of a good haven, and such passengers as had friends in these towns, went ashore in the yawl, and made brief visits, now and then even delaying to take tea there.

My young guardians, tired of the sea monotony, were ready wherever there was an acquaintance, for the bit of change, and of course I could not be left on board. But how I dreaded the procedure! It was pleasant enough rowing ashore in the bright sunlight, walking up the quiet streets, and receiving cordial cheer from welcoming people. But not all that pleasantness, not the parcel of candies, and the particularly selected blood-orange, given to assuage my feelings, could prevent my haunting the windows as dusk came on, and portraying to myself the dreadful scene when I should presently be carried in some rude sailor's arms down the long, dark wharves, the lanterns swinging in advance, be handed into the boat waiting in those wet shadows from which the unseen voices came, and then be rowed out over the black tide, and lifted at last up the awful side of the vessel, that was magnified to something monstrous in the gloom. It made me shudder, hours beforehand, to anticipate it, and if I chanced to fall asleep before the time, and awoke to find the transfer made in a dream, and myself lying quietly in my berth, that seemed more horrible yet, as showing the fearful accidents that might befall in slumber, and pinned my eyelids back for many a night, lest I should really go to sleep in spite of myself.

Miss Burne never left the vessel in any of these trips; but she was always leaning over the side on our return, with such a strange, intent look on her face, as if she were counting us, that once, glad to touch the deck myself, and meaning in a childish way to reassure her, I piped out: "We are all here, Miss Burne." But whether it seemed to her an impertinence, or she thought it best to keep away from any one who observed her so carefully, she had little to say to me, as I ran about the deck or cabin, after that.

She had come on board herself, in the beginning, in quite as queer a way as our parties came out from their little entertainments alongshore. On the day we sailed, the last passengers had been shown to their state-rooms, and had established themselves, all adieux had been made, the anchor weighed, tears shed, the sails filled, and we had been for a couple of hours threading the rocky channels, and not yet losing sight of the blue upland, dipping and rising before the gentle gale, when we were hailed by a sail-boat, which, in reply to our answering halloo, claimed to have run out from a point of the mainland to put a passenger on board. I hardly understood then the doubt that I heard the Captain express, under everybody's heels as I was, as they came alongside when we brought to, as if he thought it were easier for them to have run out from behind some one of the craggy islets lifting their red sides on our lee.

"Wait till we show you our heels," said the young fellow at the tiller, with a laugh, "and you won't fret about being overhauled by a boat with the wings of the wind."

The Captain gave him a rough answer, but he helped the passenger aboard all the same, the handsome girl with such a color on her cheek, and such a sparkle in her eye as she lifted it a moment to speak her thanks. Then a couple of portmanteaus were lightly tossed up after her, there were some good-by cries, and waves of a hand, and the boat was shaking out her canvas again, and flying back with the wings of the wind indeed. Watching her for a moment, the Captain ejaculated some wish that a packet-ship could run such a rig as that, and quite forgot his handsome passenger. When he looked at her, she was wiping her eyes and gazing after the flying boat, and I, in wide-mouthed wonder, a cheek distended on either side with the sweet and salty morsel, was offering her one of my store of butter-scotches. She took the candy absently, held it a moment on the tip of her finger, and filliped it into the sea.

"*Impressions du voyage.*" cried one of the young girls, with sea-born familiarity, who had been walking up and down the deck with Mr. Brossier, laughing and talking, still new to the treacherous swell, and pausing now to look at Miss Burne. "You are homesick, and I am seasick," and the next moment, turning green, yellow and livid white at once, with still more acute impressions, she fled plunging down the companionway, and Miss Burne moved and gazed after her, as if to be seasick were to be a phenomenon.

I was pained at the fate of my butter-scotch, but nevertheless lost in admiration of the person to whom a butter-scotch meant so little. I was not alone in my admiration, however. Mr. Brossier, the young minister, admired the proud and stately stranger as much as I did, and if he did not follow her about as much as I did, he followed her with his glances, and a host of small observances. He was a delicate, pale little man, if I recall him, with something, if not effeminate, yet of a feminine suggestion. His fair, thin face had a spiritual look that made him sometimes seem of an unearthly holiness; I remember having had a sensation as if I expected the sun to shine through him. He was the only one of all on board to whom Miss Burne greatly condescended, whether she was touched by his delicacy, or he was drawn by her strength. She never spoke loudly; but her slow contralto tones had a reedy thrill in them, when she spoke with him, that lingered on the ear, and she listened to him with a mounting color on her cheek. Although she kept so much to herself, and refused to join the parties going ashore every here and there, yet in the evenings, long after I was in my little berth, she was out with Mr. Brossier upon the deck; and, child as I was, I grew to be conscious in that tedious voyage, which filled a month, and should only have filled a week, that Miss Burne had a nervous sort of wish that Mr. Brossier should not think ill of her.

Of course much of all this I knew afterward, from various things which I did not put together for their natural inferences then, and from fragments of the remembered conversation of others. Why in the world should he think ill of her? Silent as a sphinx the most of the time, that calm and lofty manner of hers was all there was to judge from, and certainly one could judge little from that. Still, there were some small indications outside of that.

"See what industry can accomplish, Miss Burne," said Mrs. Ashley, in her mincing way, one morning, holding up the sock which she was knitting, and pointing to an additional inch of her work, as a rebuke to sluggards just out for breakfast.

"Do you knit as much every Sunday morning, Mrs. Ashley?" asked Miss Burne, loftily.

And the good Captain's wife, who prided herself on her observance of discipline, turned in dismay to Mr. Brossier, who had perhaps been quietly enjoying the sight of her industry, not too good for a joke himself, on that innocent ignorance of the passage of time which was a satire on the length of our own passage.

"I believe you knew it was Sunday all the time, sir," said Mrs. Ashley.

"Why, of course I did," replied Mr. Brossier.

"And didn't tell me!"

"I thought I should hurt your feelings."

"And left it for her to do!"

"I beg your pardon, truly," said Miss Burne, bending toward her, "if I have hurt your feelings, I am a sort of a pirate anyway, and am always doing something of the kind."

To hear Miss Burne say she was a sort of a pirate, and that before the minister! After all, then, could she care what he thought of her?

But worse than that was to come.

"I am very sure about it," said Mrs. Ashley, on another day, to another group. "I ought not to say a word about it, for a passenger's passenger, and it's my husband's business. But how can you help it? When a man drinks, it's bad enough; but a woman! And her breath was unmistakable. And how Mr. Brossier can——Dear me, you are not going under again, Mr. Yerger?" as the ship gave one of those long lurches that seem to separate brain and body.

"This slow roll of the sea is worse than being on the back of a sea serpent," said Miss Burne, coming up. "Try this, Mr. Yerger; I often do," and she took a small flask of cologne from her reticule, wet with it a couple of lumps of sugar in her fingers, and resisting the pitch of the vessel, she put one into his mouth and the other into her own. And we all saw her do it. "A good stimulant on some occasions," she said in that unapproachable tone, and was lost in her book again presently.

"And it isn't only that," continued Mrs. Ashley, in a lower tone, and with a significant nod. "But if you want to know, look for her till you see a spark at the end of a cigarette in her mouth!"

"Lighting it for Mr. Brossier," said somebody.

"No Mr. Brossier about it! She may do it for asthma for all that I know, but she does it."

"Girls with such a lot of brothers as she seems to have, are apt to catch their tricks," said Captain Ashley, as his walking of the deck brought him into the cluster.

"That's so like my husband," said Mrs. Ashley, "always defending the passengers. To be sure it's business; but if it's a pretty girl, there's a little heart in it. Though for my part—But, as I said, her breath was unmistakable, and she smokes, Captain Ashley or no Captain Ashley! There, child, do run away. You are always under one's nose."

I was sure Miss Burne knew what they were talking of, for I saw a smile flit round her mouth, parting the lips and showing the broken corner of that pearly tooth, and I was quite sure there could be nothing in her book to make her smile, for it was one of Mr. Brossier's sermons. But if she could be aware that people said she did such dreadful things, and smile about it, how could she care whether the minister thought ill of her, or not? On the whole, from the oldest to the youngest, Miss Burne occupied a great deal more of our thoughts than she would have liked to do, had she fully understood it.

We had worried along our slow way, stopping here, there and everywhere, for reasons convenient to the good old Captain, and at length came to anchor in Portland harbor, where some slight repair was to be given to the packet, and the customary visits on shore were made, and I suffered my customary panic for the night, the dark wharves, the dark water, the dark hulk of the ship, with the glimmering harbor lights that just made darkness visible. Half asleep, yet quivering with excitement, and a little inclined to cry, I had been set down upon the deck by the sailor who had me in charge, and who, by reason of a dried fig now and then, a soft-shelled almond, and a series of wonderful sorcerer's knots that he could tie in ropes, had become less of an object of terror to me, than once he had been, and they were just drawing up the gangway steps, while Miss Burne and the minister looked over the side, when a voice was heard under the quarter calling for a rope, and after some swinging of lanterns it was seen that a boat's crew were hanging on their oars and waiting to board us.

"By George! what's up now?" exclaimed Captain Ashley. "Wonder if they think the old packet's contraband? Let down the ladder again, Joe; it's the custom house officers."

There was, as he spoke, a hurried movement on Miss Burne's part. She seized Mr. Brossier's hand and wrung it in a startling fashion, and then immediately glided swiftly away into the darkness. Just as the men from the custom house boat stepped on deck, there was a bound, a splash; and, although boats were lowered and all the harbor alarmed, Miss Burne was seen no more.

There had been altogether too much excitement for me to be sent to bed, and there I was as full of wide-eyed wonder as anybody else, when, an hour afterward, the men returned to the packet.

"Was it Miss Burne? Have you found her?" was the general cry.

"Miss Burne be blessed," was the answer. "You've brought along one of the cunningest smugglers on the coast, and we've lost one of the prettiest hauls of the season. Now let's see those portmanteaus. Nothing less than lace and diamonds if they haven't been stripped, I'll be bound." And when the portmanteaus were brought on deck, in less than half a minute they were opened and found to be empty.

"Just as I told you," said the officer, turning one of the great bags inside out. And there, to be sure, was a tiny shred of lace caught upon one of the steel clasps. "Humph! the very best. You can wear a good many yards of this cobweb stuff wound round you. Bad to wet it: they'd rather not. Sorry it had to be done. Well, captain, knowing you, I suppose there's no doubt but that you're as surprised as we are. But this was a particular case and we were on the lookout. Rum party; but we were up to his tricks. Tried it on the minister, eh? Mild flirtation, read good books, wanted more light, under conviction, and all that? Ha! ha! ha! Drowned? Pshaw! Swims like a fish and pals all along the shore. Live to give us plenty more trouble yet!" And after a call upon the captain's locker, the visitors retired over the quarter-deck as they came, by which time I was fast asleep. But I heard the affair talked over so thoroughly, of course, that I daresay I remember quite vividly, as many another gossip does, much more than I saw.

What it all meant, however, exceeded my power of conjecture that next day; and I must have driven the ship's crew and passengers and my own family wild with my interrogations. Where was Miss Burne? And why had she jumped overboard? How terrible that was! it made the shivers run up my back. Was she crazy? Was she walking in her sleep? Naughty!—was she naughty? And was that what made Mr. Brossier so sick he couldn't leave his berth? Poor Miss Burne! Was she drowned? I should be if I jumped overboard. And what had Miss Burne been doing, anyhow? And what was there wrong about that? Why couldn't I understand? Had she paid for the lace? Then what business had those men to meddle? And why should they wish to take it from her? And what was smuggling, and what made it wicked? And why shouldn't people buy things where they got them cheapest? And was Miss Burne Miss Burne? And if she wasn't Miss Burne, who was she? What a pestilent little inquisitor I must have been!

None of these questions, I admit, have ever been answered quite to my contentment, even to the present day, notwithstanding the asservations of the older people and the loud suspicions and laughter of the captain and his mates. And although in the passage of a dozen or more years I ceased to remember accurately the circumstances that led to the asking, still some sea-breeze, some sound of bells over water as I heard them that evening, some pale-faced minister, some dark-browed young woman, some contralto tone with a thrill in it, would bring recollections of the affair to me, and now and then I caught myself thinking it over and doing my best to extract its little flavor of romance. If Miss Burne was not drowned, why did I never come across her, going about the world as I did? Having reached, from my own experience, the fixed conclusion that once meeting a person I was never to escape that person, I confess I used often to look for the high-shouldered dark-eyed young woman of my memory——and that, too, without allowing a great deal for the changes of intervening years; and I felt, with much of my childish interest and sympathy, and unexpressed reproach for my gay young guardians on that voyage, that they had not unbent more on ship-board, won confidence, and helped the handsome stranger into safe harborage with that importation. What if it was smuggling? It was lace! Being a woman, and having no hand in making the laws, I failed to see why I should trouble myself about other people obeying them literally, at any rate. For my own part, knowing that if a woman who hesitates is not lost, her bargain is apt to be, I never hesitated myself to buy laces and gloves and perfumery when yachting along the coast with friends who were unfortunate enough to have a yacht on their hands, and taking my opportunity of going ashore in some town of the British provinces where I could buy them for half that I could at home.

It was one winter day, however, when my thoughts were far removed from this incident of my long-vanished childhood, that I entered a street car on my up-town way, and after despatching a vain expression of thanks to the universe—the person who resigned his seat to me having hurried out upon the platform with such an evident fear of catching my eye that one would suppose I had the evil eye—and after wiping the dust off my draperies from the soles that the opposite gentleman offered to the contemplation of the public, and gathering up my skirts so as not to interfere with the personal liberty of the tobacco-chewing gentleman on my right, I began, according to my habit of old, to look over my fellow-travellers and draw social deductions from their little peculiarities.

There was nothing very absorbing about them; some tired shopping women like myself; some tired shop-girls, too, with their affluence of jewelry and cotton lace; a young music teacher with her weary roll; a fierce school-girl, whose empty luncheon box foretold an immediate raid upon the pantry; a bank president, who, not to forget the day of his small beginnings, still preferred public conveyance as he nodded upon his cane; a foreign gentleman, whose slumbers made the car balmy if they were not balmy themselves—I soon exhausted them, and, changing my position somewhat, began to take account of my left-hand neighbor, who had recently entered—a dark, slender, man, under rather than over the average height, with a keen eye and quiet manner of his own.

It was certainly someone I knew. How provoking I must needs forget the name! And I was cudgelling my brains for some association with which I might fix him before I appeared to see him, when one of my furtive glances suddenly struck upon a spot from which it ricochetted like a bullet from a stone.

It was a spot where a tiny atom of my neighbor's right nostril had been clipped out, leaving the effect of that haughty curl whose high-bred outline by no means injures the face, though not adding to any appearance of amiability. I started involuntarily, but as the person turned to see why, I pretended only to have shivered, and pulled my shawl more closely around me. What a strange resemblance! I thought; or was my indulged fancy running wild? There was the straight black brow, the downcast eyelid with its long lash, and, when I ventured to look again, the somewhat sunken mouth with its red lip, and the corner of the front tooth gone, the line of downy shadow developed, it is true, into a delicate mustache. Was it—could it—How absurd I was—always making moons out of green cheese? But indeed there was something to go upon here, I said again, after a new survey and fresh intuitions. Could it be—it couldn't be Miss Burne. Was it Miss Burne's brother? Odd that both of them should have met with the same accidents? While I was amusing myself, the person occupying my thoughts bent idly to brush a straw from his gaiter, and in doing so his glove suddenly ripped, and there protruded a quaint ring on his little finger. Surely I had seen that ring before! Was it a gemal-ring of five slender wires strung with small diamonds, over which the finger had grown so that it could only be removed by the aid of a file? It made me shiver in reality, and before I recovered sufficiently to laugh at myself for letting my imagination run away with me, the car stopped for a person I knew by sight but not by name, as Teddy knew Mr. O'Halloran. He was an officer of the revenue, I hardly knew what; a customs detective, it may be.

Every woman has a natural antipathy to custom house officers; perhaps they interfere with a line of business to which she is adapted. In my case, at all events, on that day I was uncommonly conscious of a dislike for the man's work and a desire to thwart it. And all at once rushed over me a sense of some connection between his presence on the car and that of my left-hand neighbor. I pulled up my shawl. There had never been any duties paid on that pretty cashmere; it had come over in a shawl-strap as one of the wraps for use on the deck. Allowing all that my neighbor might be, was I any better?

I turned and looked at him openly—it was frightfully bold, and it makes my heart beat to think I could do it—opening a little parcel of butter-scotches that I had bought for Katherine, and offering him one.

"*Impressions du voyage,*" I said.

He looked at me from the corner of his long-lashed black eyes without a word. Perhaps he recognized a fellow law-breaker; he certainly could not have recognized the child of the old down-east voyage. But he took the butter-scotch absently, held it for a moment on the tip of his finger, and filliped it into the straw. Then the car stopped at some obstruction of a passing team, the driver began to swear, the conductor hurried to help him, there was a general craning of necks to discover the cause of the commotion, and when I turned my head again my left-hand neighbor, whether it was Miss Burne, or Miss Burne's brother, no matter which, was gone.

But, as I make it a point to have something to tell from my street adventures when I get home, I told that day at the dinner-table what was to me an interesting coincidence.

General Miscellany.

THE CAPTAIN'S ROOM.

During my present visit, says a Nantucket correspondent of the New York *Evening Post*, I have achieved an introduction to the "Captain's room," centre of all the tradition and poetry of the port, and jealously guarded from the intrusion of the chance visitor. It is a corner room, on a seaward street, under the old stone custom-house, with the bow-sprits of vessels—when any are in port—looming up before its windows. Capacious and inviting armchairs are ranged about the room; the floor is bare; on the walls are maps, charts, sundry prints and paintings of ships careering under full sail, and of boats engaged in various processes of whale-catching.

The room has its patrons at all hours of the day, but there are few chairs vacant after six o'clock in the evening. Old captains and ship-owners of the port tenant them—round, jolly, rubicund sea rovers, whose honest earnings have enabled them to cast anchor in this snug port, some years before the tempests of old age have assailed them. Here they sit about the stove, with their feet on the fender, or tilt their chairs against the wall, smoke sea-flavored tobacco in long pipes, and discuss the current gossip of the town, or with stirring reminiscence recall old days of enterprise and adventure. Here one sees a stout, rosy gentleman, who has brought 40,000 barrels of whale oil into port, and bone in proportion. His neighbor has taken 25,000 barrels of sperm oil, the most ever taken by any one man, and has made twelve voyages to the Pacific. Another, in his sixty-third year, cleared for a four-years' voyage to the Pacific, and returned with 2700 barrels of sperm oil.

One of the sitters is the last survivor of the ill-fated Essex, whose marvellous story has been told in all languages. Another, at our friend's request, shoves up his waistband, and shows a large tumor on his side, marking the spot where a whale's tooth once entered. The whale had been struck, he told us, and in his flurry threw the boat with its crew into the air; our hero coming down into the creature's open mouth, and the huge jaws closing spasmodically upon him. Two teeth tore the flesh from his right thigh, one entered his side, a fourth tore the scalp on his head. For a moment the Captain was held thus spitted, feeling a pressure as of worlds. Then the huge jaws relaxed, and cast him into the water, whence the men hauled him into the recovered boat.

Another gentleman whom we met here, is a retired ship-owner, and merchant of eventful history. In 1823 he made his first voyage around the world; in 1854 he hoisted the first United States flag ever raised in New Zealand; he sent the first ship that entered Foochow after it was opened to commerce, and it is but a few years since he was associated with European capitalists in a grand scheme, of which the Pacific was to be the field, Nantucket the depot or base of supplies, and Europe the market.

From Good Cheer.

"LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE."

BY EMMA S. BABCOCK.

Night on the angry billows;
And bright from the light-house tower
Shines forth a friendly beacon,
To save from the tempest's power.

Said the keeper—the brave Max Errdman,
As he worked in the tower that night,
"I wonder, if down on the lower coast,
Their lamp is burning bright?"

"Young Franz and Ivan—the keepers—
May be careless;—I think I'll go
And look from the cliff;—I must hasten back,
For the oil in *my* lamp is low."

So away he sped through the darkness,
To the mountain peak afar;
And saw through the gloom of the driving storm,
Like the smile of a beautiful star,

The headland light-house, gleaming
O'er that dangerous lower coast;
"Aha!" cried Max—"tis as good as *mine*,
I must hurry back to my post."

"But where is the bridge? have I missed it?
Good Heavens! It is washed away,
And hark! the deep roar of a signal gun
Comes booming up from the bay."

Climbing the crest of the mountain,
He looks for the cheering spark
From *his* light-house gleaming;—alas! alas!
It is out; and the tower is dark.

Faster, and even faster
Down the mountain crags he leaps;
For he knows by the sound of the minute-guns,
That down on the rocky steeps,

By *his* light-house dark, is a vessel:
For, with nothing to guide her way,
She has struck, and will go to pieces,
Before the break of the day.

To his tower Max wildly hurries;
But while the oil he poured
In his empty lamp, that ship went down,
With every soul on board.

For many a soul may be shipwrecked
In the tempest and the night;
While those who should cheer and guide them,
Are watching *their neighbor's* light.

FRUIT IN SUMMER.

Lightness is the first essential alike in food and drink in warm weather. There is then less work to be done, less waste of tissue, less need of the pre-eminently muscle-forming and heat-producing substances, bread and meat; and fruit, as being both palatable and easily obtainable, is much in use. Its advantages are that it produces a seasonable change in diet, is light and wholesome if well chosen, and a palatable tonic and stimulant of digestion with aperient properties.

There are few who cannot enjoy it in one form or other. For diabetes the only least desirable kinds, as certain nuts and almonds, are available, all others, as containing sugar, being forbidden. Sufferers from acid dyspepsia must select carefully and limit their consumption to the least irritating—a few strawberries or a few grapes. Diarrhœa and dysentery preclude the use of all fruit. On the other hand, for constipated persons it is the only reliable remedy which they can use continuously with comfort; it is also of benefit in renal diseases, by its action on the bowel. Atonic people take it well, and feel the better for its digestive property. Those in normal health may eat any ripe fruit.

The bland varities are the most wholesome and nutritious—strawberries, apples, grapes, pears, and gooseberries. The last named however, with currants and raspberries, are less wholesome than the others. Stone fruits are apt to disagree with the stomach; but the more watery, as peaches and large plums, are better than the smaller and drier, as apricots and damsons. The pulp of oranges renders them heavy. Among other foreign fruit bananas are wholesome. Dried fruit and the skin of fruit, in general are indigestible. Nuts, the edible part of which is really the seed, contain much albumen and fat in a condensed form, and are particularly difficult of digestion.

Fruit may be taken with a meal or on an empty stomach. In the former case it produces digestion by its slightly irratating effect on the mucous membrane of the stomach and intestine. If the aperient effect be desired it had better be taken in the morning before breakfast or between meals. A succulent and pleasantly acid variety is best for both of these purposes, while it is also a food. The quantity of fruit taken depends on the kind. If it belongs to the bland nutritious class, a healthy person may now and then partake of it as freely as of any other wholesome food; but he will gain the most benefit if he take only a little, and take it regularly. The same may be said of the invalid with whom fruit agrees.

Cooking removes much of the acidity from crude fruit, and renders it lighter as well as palatable. So treated it is productive of much good and no harm; but it is a fundamental principle that whatever fruit is eaten uncooked must be fully ripe and not overripe. This may be found trite, and, indeed, the principle is commonly admitted: but not, it would seem, by all, for we still find people, and not a few, who will themselves deliberately take, and worse, will give to their children, green gooseberries, green apples, &c., the very hardness of which, apart from their acid pungency, suggests their unfitness for digestion. Such people use as food an acid irritatant poison, whose necessary action is to cause excessive intestinal secretion, with more or less of inflammation. Hence arises diarrhœa. On the other hand, fruit that is overripe, in which fermentation has begun, is a frequent cause of this disorder and equally to be avoided, and perhaps more difficult to avoid because the insidious beginning of decay is not easily recognized. It should never be forgotten by any who incline to follow the season in their feeding, that the want of such precautions as the above may produce that dysenteric form of diarrhœa, "British Cholera," which is occasionally as rapidly fatal as the more dreaded Asiatic type of this disease.—*British Medical Journal.*

CANINE ANTIPATHIES.

The rooted dislike manifested by the canine race for postmen has lately been the subject of a lively discussion in our columns, says the London *Globe*, but without receiving any explanation which could be deemed altogether satisfactory. It remains still open to as much doubt and argument as ever, why a dog should be provoked to greater anger by the sight of a man clad in Mr. Fawcett's livery, than by the appearance of any ordinary subject of her Majesty. The phenomenon is attributed to a freak of instinct, and that is about all that can be said about it, as about many other peculiarities noticed in various species of the brute creation. If a collection could be made of all those cases where the animal, without any apparent cause, has taken a sudden dislike to one person or thing rather than another, some puzzling problems would be presented by it, for the study of psychologists.

The most notable example of this sort of thing, is, no doubt, the bull and his red rag, which might just as well have been blue, white, yellow, or black, for anything we could tell, unless we had the uniform testimony of centuries to enlighten us on the subject. Why should mosquitoes, and other spiteful or hungry insects persistently attack one person while they allow another to sleep almost in peace? No theory has been advanced to account properly for this; and a determined arguer may maintain, if he likes, that even in this case, the attack made on the sufferer is prompted by a feeling of capricious malice on the part of the assailants. But it is in dogs that the best illustrations are found of the curious caprice in question. Why should a dog, of all other beasts, be affected with agony at the sound of music? There are plenty of dogs, appertaining to the most various breeds, which are convulsed with inward tortures at the sound of an organ-grinder, and howl with a dismal note, betokening much anguish of mind, even at the sound of a piano in the room above, or a concertina outside of the house.

Again, why should dogs and cats exhibit for one another that natural aversion which has made it a proverbial phrase to speak of a "cat-and-dog life?" It will be said that they are natural enemies, and that each, being a carnivorous beast, is prepared to kill and eat the other. But it would be hard to find a case where either had actually been devoured by the victorious enemy; and it is obvious to any one who has ever seen a dog run at a cat, that it is the spirit of sport and adventure which urges him on to the attack, and not hunger or the desire of utilizing the dead body of the victim. Moreover, there are probably not as many as five dogs out of every ten, which have either the pluck or the inclination to make a serious attack, and yet the cat, who is quite well aware that there is nothing to be feared from the mean-spirited curs, will exhibit almost as much uneasiness and wrath in their presence, as at the sight of a bull-terrier.

PHILADELPHIA'S IMPORTED DISHES.

"Pork pies and Scotch scones to order," is the sign in front of a bakery and fancy cake store on Germantown Avenue. Pork pies are not particularly tempting to the appetite in warm weather, and Scotch scones have a very indefinite meaning to the American mind, and so the ubiquitous newspaper man entered the shop, and interviewed the proprietress. A civil-spoken woman, whose accent at once denoted her humble English origin, was seated behind the counter.

"That there sign 'tracts the Hinglish, and they do loves anything wot 'as pork in it. Roast leg o' pork, poor man's goose, as the saying is, and you can't go into no public 'ouse in London without seeing pork pie on the counter."

"Is that the free lunch over there, then?"

"No, sir. Not much! Drinks is cheaper, wittles dearer. If you wants a piece of pork pie with your quartern (of gin,) you pays your tuppence, and gets your quarter (of pie.) And wot's more, the 'pubs' sells it all the year round."

"And do you?"

"No; wish we did. Pies don't sell much until September, and then then they go steady until the beginning of summer. There are plenty of Hinglish living round here, and they do just love them. Sometimes we sell as 'igh as fifty pies a day, at ten cents apiece, 'ot or cold."

"What are Scotch scones?"

"Them's they, was the reply, as the woman drew the attention of the reporter to a pyramid of triangular pieces of light brown dough, half an inch thick, and speckled here and there with a currant.

"How are they eaten?"

"Well, I should bake them. Some toasts them; some butters them; some takes them plain. In Hingland they leave out the currants, generally. In this country they eat such lots of 'ot bread an' 'ot cakes an' biscuits. That's why people 'as dyspepsia an' indigestion. The bakers 'ere serve 'ot bread for breakfast. I don't. My bread is baked at midday, and them as wants it, buys it 'arf a day h'old, in the morning. H'every country 'as its hown ways, says the proverb. I looks to my countrymen over 'ere for a livin'."—*Philadelphia Press.*

EXTERMINATING THE ELEPHANT.

Altogether, it is the opinion of the best-informed merchants, Africa exports every year an average of from 600,000 to 7 0, 00 pounds of ivory. It is estimated that in the western part of the continent over 21,000 elephants are slaughtered annually, and though the trade increases this is due to the eagerness with which the natives are following the policy of destroying the "hen that lays the golden egg." The Indian export is no criterion of the number of elephants killed in that country, Ceylon, and the adjoining regions, for a large quantity is used for ornaments and other decorative purposes. China also exports to Europe, in the shape of carved wook, nearly all the ivory sent to it. The price of the material varies, moreover, according to the size of the tusk, those below six or seven pounds not being worth more than half the price of the fine large tusks weighing 12 or 14 pounds. Something also depends on the condition in which the tusks reach the trader, for if they have been roughly treated they are assessed at a lower figure than if the middleman had wrapped up his costly merchandise in order to transport it to the rendezvous. Still, there cannot be any doubt that before long the elephant, which is already scarce, will become practically exterminated. Indeed, some of the African ivory, after being sent to England, is now re-exported to districts where it was once common, to be manufactured into bangles beloved of the negro belles. When Livingstone first visited Tanganyika the elephants came about his camp and entered the villages with impunity. But nowadays the area in which the huge pachyderm is found has become so circumscribed that travellers like Mr. Thompson have ranged Africa for 14 months without being so fortunate as to see a single specimen. Twenty or 25 years ago the countries between the Great Lakes and the coast were rich in ivory. Caravans came laden from Mambwe, Ulunga, Urori, Ubena, Ugogo and Unyanyembe—regions which Mr. Thompson, the most recent explorer of that portion of the Dark Continent, assures us are now completely despoiled. Scarcely a tusk is obtained from all that wide expanse, and it is only "by process of infiltration" that the traders at centres like Nyange are able to draw to their depots enough to make the business worth following.

The inference from this is unavoidable. The elephants have been so eagerly pursued that they are fast decreasing, and though, for a time, the high prices will keep up the supply, even this stimulus must before long fail to load the traders' caravans. Where else we have to look for our stores it is hard to say. Every possible or known hunting-ground is already thoroughly worked, and unless new deposits of the fossil ivory of Siberia are discovered in the Liak off Islands even that doubtful mine will be exhausted.—*London Standard.*

SUNKEN CITIES.

There are numerous legends of sunken cities scattered through Ireland, some of which are of a most romantic origin. Thus the space now covered by the Lake of Inchiquin, is reported in former days to have been a populous and flourishing city; but, for some dreadful and unabsolved crime, tradition says it was buried beneath the deep waters. The "dark spirit" of its king, still resides in one of the caverns which border the lake, and once every seven years, at midnight, he issues forth, mounted on his white charger, and makes the complete circuit of the lake; a performance which he is to continue until the silver hoofs of his steed are worn out, when the curse will be removed, and the city reappear once more in all its bygone condition. The peasantry affirm that even now on a calm night, one may clearly see the towers and spires gleaming through the clear water. With this legend we may compare one told by Burton in his "History of Ireland."

"In Ulster is a lake 30,000 paces long and 15,000 broad, out of which ariseth the noble river called Bane. It is believed by the inhabitants that they were formerly wicked, vicious people, who lived in this place; and there was an old prophecy in every one's mouth, that whenever a well, which was therein, and was continually covered and locked up carefully, should be left open, so great a quantity of water would issue thereout as would forthwith overflow the whole adjacent country. It happened that an old beldam, coming to fetch water, heard her child cry, upon which, running away in haste, she forgot to cover the spring, and coming back to do it, the land was so overrun that it was past her help; and at length she, her child, and all the territory were drowned, which caused this pool, which remains to this day."

Giraldus Cambrensis, too, notices the tradition of Lough Neagh having once been a fountain which overflowed the whole country, to which Moore thus alludes:

"On Lough Neagh's banks, as the fisherman strays,
When the clear, cold eve's declining,
He sees the round towers of other days
In the wave beneath him shining."

—*Chambers' Journal.*

NOAH'S ARK DISCOVERED.

A Constantinople contemporary announces the discovery of Noah's Ark. It appears that some Turkish Commissioners appointed to investigate the question of avalanches on Mount Ararat suddenly came upon a gigantic structure of very dark wood protruding from a glacier. They made inquiries of the inhabitants (Q. 1725 in their report.) These had seen it for six years, but had been afraid to approach it because a spirit of fierce aspect had been seen looking out of the upper window. Turkish Commissioners, however, are bold men, not deterred by such trifles, and they determined to reach it. Situated as it was among the fastnesses of one of the glens of Mount Ararat, it was a work of enormous difficulty and it was only after incredible hardships that they succeeded. The ark, one will be glad to hear, was in a good state of preservation, although the angles—observe, not the bow or stern—had been a good deal broken in its descent. They recognized it at once. There was an Englishman among them who had presumably read his Bible and he saw it was made of the ancient gopher wood of Scripture, which as every one knows, only grows on the plains of the Euphrates. Effecting an entrance to the vessel, which was painted brown, they found that the Admiralty requirements for the conveyance of horses had been carried out, and the interior was divided into partitions fifteen feet high. Into three of these only could they get, the others being full of ice, and how far the ark extended into the glacier they could not tell. If, however, on being uncovered it turns out to be 800 cubits long it will go hard with the misbelievers in the book of Genesis. "Needless to say," says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "an American was soon on the spot, and negotiations have been entered into with the local Pasha for its speedy transfer to the United States."

SWEET CHARITY.—The Virginia City, Nev., *Enterprise*, relates that a pair of robins and a pair of cat-birds had nests near the residence of a gentleman of that place, and hatched out their young about the same time. One day the cat-birds were missed, having probably been shot. The young cat-birds were in danger of starvation, and when the robins came home with worms for their young, the little cat-birds opened their mouths and made a great out-cry. The robins understood the appeal, and